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The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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The Literary Digest

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE SENATE AND THE CANAL.

NO one seems to doubt that the amendments made in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty show clearly that the Senate is for an "American canal," to be controlled wholly by the United States in peace and war. It is predicted that England will decline to ratify the amended treaty, and with the Senate in its present mood, such a course, it is believed, will delay the construction of the canal, unless, indeed, as some papers advise, the Clayton-Bulwer treaty be denounced by the United States and the canal built regardless of England's wishes. The temper of the Senate was first made evident by its adoption of the Davis amendment (passed by a vote of 65 to 17) permitting "measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing, by its own forces, the defense of the United States and the maintenance of public order." Two other amendments were proposed by Senator Foraker, and accepted by the Committee on Foreign Relations, the first declaring that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty "is hereby superseded," and the other eliminating Article III., which provided that the other powers should be invited to adhere to the treaty. The intent of the Davis amendment is to give the United States authority to close the canal to an enemy in war-time.

The newspapers that favor exclusive American control of the canal are naturally exultant over the Senate's transformation of the treaty. The Baltimore *American* (Rep.) declares that "true Americanism could not wish for a more genuinely patriotic achievement," and the New York *Journal* (Dem.) says: "The Senate has given itself a new lease of life. By the splendid majority it gave yesterday for an American Nicaragua canal it did much to disarm the growing popular prejudice against it and restore confidence in it as a valuable part of our system of government." The New York *Sun* (Rep.) observes that "thus has the elaborately planned structure of Mr. Hay's new policy fallen like a house of cards under the first breath of vigorous American sentiment"; and the Brooklyn *Standard-Union* (Rep.) declares that "the vote of the Senate will be sustained by a great majority of the American people," adding that "if the British Government will not consent to the really unimportant and innocuous Davis amendment—which would be the simplest and easiest way out of the difficulty—why, then let our Government take the necessary steps to terminate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and go ahead and build and fortify an American canal, and back it up with the Monroe doctrine." The Washington *Post* (Ind.), too, says: "There is, in our opinion, but one safe and honorable solution of this threatening and distasteful problem: Reject the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, free ourselves of every sinister and abhorrent net that has been spread for us by our enemies, then build our own canal, upon our own plan, for our own welfare and protection, and hold an unsheathed sword for the first challenger who sees fit to brave it."

There are many influential journals, however, which favor a neutralized canal, open to all nations alike at all times, a public highway for the commerce of the world. These papers deplore the spirit shown by the Senate. The New York *Herald* (Ind.), for example, thinks that "this frantic outbreak of the jingo and 'bloody shirt' spirit in the Senate is at once disgusting and discouraging. The saner members of that once illustrious body owe it to themselves and to the country to suppress the fire-eaters among them, and meanwhile the American people can only blush and wait for the subsidence of the frenzy." The New York *Commercial Advertiser* (Rep.) says that "it is a very sorry and a very humiliating spectacle, but protest and appeal are alike unavailing upon the leading performers in it"; and the New York *Mail and Express* (Rep.) observes: "It does not absolutely commit the United States to a policy of dangerous exclusiveness and defiance inconsistent with the broad course it has been marking out for itself in the last three years, but it opens the door and points the way, and is itself the initial step in a departure that leads to a maze of perils, while the path of peaceful progress is plain before us." The Philadelphia *Record* (Ind. Dem.) remarks that "by this action the Senate has so changed the whole purport of the convention that its acceptance by Great Britain has become most unlikely; indeed, it may be doubted whether the executive department of this Government would even urge the mangled—and, in its present form, contradictory—treaty upon Great Britain." The New York *Journal of Commerce* (Fin.) says:

"Europe will not make war on us over the canal. But one or both of two things will occur. We shall have the world more unfriendly to us than now and ready to injure us, at least, so far as the canal is concerned, at the first opportunity when we are in difficulties, as we shall be sooner or later. But in addition to this the maritime nations of Europe will not tolerate a single interoceanic canal which is the private property of the United States. The London *Morning Post*, which probably expresses the sentiments of the present ministry, says that in negotiating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty Great Britain acted as the representative of the maritime powers of the world; that if we wish to denounce the treaty we can be restrained only by war, and no European nation would think of that; but 'it will be open to Great Britain alone, or in conjunction with other maritime states, to consider whether another canal not under the control of the United States may be worth the making. In this matter British interests are identical with the interests of all the maritime powers save the United States.'

"The defeat of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty would be extremely bad politics and bad business. It would raise up for the United

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States needless enmities. It would probably duplicate the Nicaragua canal, divide the business, and make it impossible for our canal to earn its expenses. Great Britain might easily persuade itself that it could afford to guarantee interest on the cost of the Panama canal rather than to have an isthmian canal which should be an American private way, and the interests of Germany and France, to say nothing of Russia and the smaller states, are identical with those of Great Britain. How does it happen that Frenchmen continue work at Panama, and that even in the face of a threat of the Nicaragua canal the French canal company does not name a price at which it will sell out to this country? It would not be a violent supposition that Europe had already decided to preserve its independence of a United States canal."

BRITISH REVERSES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THAT the war in South Africa is far from "over," Lord Roberts's word to the contrary notwithstanding, seems evident from the serious reverses to British arms reported by Kitchener last week. In the Magaliesburg hills, Thursday, December 13, General Clements was driven from his camp by the Boer General Delarey, with a loss of several lives and eighteen officers and five hundred and fifty-five men "missing." It was a "wondrous feat of arms," declares the New York *Press*, and "its accomplishment in the face of an army of occupation of 150,000 men lends an air of legerdemain." In the Orange River "Colony," on the same day a part of Brabant's Horse engaged a superior force of Boers near Nastron, losing four killed, sixteen wounded, and one hundred and twenty taken prisoners; and at Vryheid the British casualties amounted to fifty-five more. Says the Philadelphia *Press*:

"The entire Transvaal and Orange Free State are in arms. The Boer campaign is plain enough. They have left the streams and plains and taken to the mountains. On the extreme east, at Koomatiport, on the Portuguese border, they have descended on the British from the northern heights of the Drakenberg, across which the Crocodile River cuts its way. A score of miles northwest of Pretoria in the Magaliesburg, among which the affluents of the Crocodile rise, the Boers under General Delarey have driven General Clements, after some of the heaviest losses in captured in the war, down to Krugersdorp, on the railroad running from Pretoria to Johannesburg and beyond. A body of Boers has fallen on Vrede, in the extreme northwestern corner

OOM PAUL: "Well, I wonder if there's a football game on to-day."
—*The Minneapolis Journal.*

of the Orange Free State, descending from the mountains which separate it from Natal. Another commando has attacked Bethlehem. A third has raided Lichhtenburg. General De Wet having swept down the Orange River has now turned and is moving parallel with the railroad at Reddersburg. Girt as the region in which he moves is by railroads his capture should be certain; but there are no signs as yet of his leaguer and nowhere has General Knox forced him to a battle.

"After fourteen months of fighting, with half the Boer force prisoners and their active commands outnumbered from ten or twenty to one, neither the English generals nor the English troops can force an action, capture the enemy, or destroy his organization."

"Apparently the Boers are familiar with only one plan of battle," comments the Philadelphia *Record*, "but it seems to be applicable to an infinite variety of circumstances"; and the Boston *Herald* adds that the military situation certainly affords no reason for believing the report current in European circles that the Boers are on the point of surrendering. The opinion is freely expressed that these victories will do more harm than good to the Boer cause. "The Boer republics are doomed," says the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*, "and from a humanitarian point of view, it may be doubted whether this temporary success is not the worst thing that could have happened to them, as it will merely prolong the ills from which they are now suffering, and have a tendency to intensify those awaiting them."

"MR. DOOLEY" ON THE PURITY CRUSADE.

THE anti-vice movement in New York and Chicago has attracted the attention of "Mr. Dooley," and he takes occasion to make some sarcastic remarks upon the American propensity to crusade. He says:

"As a people, Hinnissy, we're th' greatest crusaders that iver was—f'r a short distance. On a quarther-mile thrack we can crusade at a rate that wud make Hogan's frind, Godfrey th' Bullion, look like a crab. But th' throuble is th' crusade don't last afther th' first sprint. Th' crusaders drops out iv th' procission to take a dhrink or put a little money on th' ace, an' be th' time th' end iv th' line iv march is reached th' boss crusader is alone in th' job, an' his former followers is hurlin' bricks at him fr'm th' windows iv policy shops. Th' boss crusader always gets th' double cross."

The police would not protect vice if it were not for the fact that "they've got to get th' money where it's comin' to thim, an' 'tis on'y comin' to thim where th' law an' vile human nature has a sthrangle holt on each other. A polisman goes afther vice as an officer of th' law, an' comes away as a philosopher. Th' theery iv mesilf, Hogan, Croker an other larned men is that vice, whin it's broke, is a crime, an' whin it's got a bank account is a necessity an' a luxury." When the purity crusade gets into full swing, however, all this is changed. "Th' polis becomes active, an' whin th' polis is active 'tis a good time f'r dacint men to wear marredg certy-ficates outside iv their coats. Hanyous monsthers is nailed in th' act iv histin' in a shell iv beer in a German Garden; husbands waits in th' polis station to be r-ready to bail out their wives whin they're arrested f'r shoppin' after four o'clock; an there's more joy over wan sinner rayturned to th' station thin f'r ninety an' nine that've rayformed." To quote again:

"Th' boss crusader is havin' th' time iv his life all th' while. His pitcher is in th' papers ivry mornin', an' his sermons is a directhry iv places iv amusement. He says to himsilf, 'I am improvin' th' wurruld, an' me name will go down to th' ginerations as th' greatest vice buster iv th' cinchry. Whin I get through, they wont be enough crime left in this city to amuse a sthranger fr'm Hannybal Missoury f'r twinty minyits,' he says. That's where he's wrong. Afther a while people gets tired iv th' pastime. They want somewhere to go nights. Most people ain't vicious, Hinnissy, an' it takes vice to hunt vice. That accounts f'r polismen. Besides th' horse show or th' football games or something else excitin' divarts their attintion, an' wan day th' boss crusader finds that he's alone in Sodom.

"'Vice ain't so bad, afther all. I notice business was betther

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whin 'twas rampant,' says wan la-ad. 'Sure, ye're right,' says another. 'I haven't sold a single pink shirt since that man Parkers closed th' faro games,' says he. 'Th' theayter business ain't what it was whin they was more vice,' says another. 'This ain't no Connecticut village,' he says. 'So 'tis no use thryin' to inthrajoose soomchury legislation in this impeeryal American city,' he says, 'where people come pursooed be th' sheriff fr'm ivry corner iv th' wurruld,' he says. 'Ye can't make laws fr' this community that wud suit a New England village,' he says, 'where,' he says, 'th' people ar-re too civilized to be immoral,' he says. 'Vice,' he says, 'goes a long way tow'rd makin' life bearable,' he says. 'A little vice now an' thin is relished be th' best iv men,' he says. 'Who's this Parkers, annyhow, intherferin' with th' liberty iv th' individooal, an',' he says, 'makin' it hard to rent houses on th' side sthreets,' he says. 'I bet ye if ye invistigate ye'll find that he's no betther thin he shud be himsilf,' he says.

"An' th' best Parkers gets out iv it is to be able to escape fr'm town in a wig an' false whiskers."

REDUCING THE TAX ON BEER.

THE fact that of the $40,000,348 reduction in the "war taxes" proposed by the bill that passed the House last week $9,832,712, or almost one quarter, is a reduction in the tax on beer, has started a warm discussion, and several of the stanchest Republican papers are among the foremost in scenting a scandal. The New York *Press* (Rep.) seems to have taken the lead in ventilating the affair, and it says that "if there is any other business more pressing for Republican Party leaders, from the President down, than to stop this dirty business here and now, we are unaware of its character." The charges are outlined by the Cleveland *Leader* (Rep.) as follows:

"It has been charged that the appointment of Representative Babcock, of Wisconsin, to the vacancy on the ways and means committee, caused by the promotion of Representative Dolliver, of Iowa, to the Senate, was made at the request of the brewing interests of the country. This charge is based on the assertion that Representative Babcock, as chairman of the Republican congressional campaign committee, had solicited and received contributions from the brewers to be used in the close districts. This money was given in the belief, on the part of the brewers, who contributed to both the Republican and Democratic campaign funds, that a return would be made in favorable legislation when the proposition to reduce the war-revenue tax came before the House.

"*The Leader* does not say this charge is true. Mr. Babcock is a man of character and ability and a good Republican; but he represents a State in which the brewing interest is stronger, perhaps, than in any other section of the Union, some of the largest breweries being in operation at Milwaukee. For that reason he may feel kindly disposed toward that interest, and in the absence of an authoritative denial the charge will have to stand.

"If the proposition of the ways and means committee is adopted, and brewers are given a rebate in taxes amounting to more than nine millions of dollars a year, while there is no reduction in the tariff tax on tea, the people are likely to remember it, and a Democratic House will probably be chosen at the next congressional election. Even if the Republicans in Congress are willing to take this risk, the Republicans of the nation are not. They are not willing to trade legislation with the brewers for campaign contributions, and the sooner that fact is pressed upon the attention of the Republicans in Congress the better it will be for the party."

The Press says, in commenting on the matter:

"The appointment of Mr. Babcock, the chairman of the committee, to the ways and means committee to enable him to pay off political debts with internal-revenue legislation is a scandal, and there is no use to call it by any other name. If the Republican members of the House permit Mr. Babcock's purpose to be fulfilled, that purpose being to reduce the beer tax in return for contributions made to Mr. Babcock by the brewers, it will be a scandal which will do more than any other ten things that could happen to give the House of Representatives to the Democratic Party in the Congress elections two years from now.

"It may be that it seems statesmanship to the speaker of the House and to Mr. Babcock, whom the speaker has placed on the ways and means committee, to transfer a lager lobby from the hotels of Washington and the House corridors into actual membership of the most important committee in Congress. But we don't believe the Republican members of the House will agree with them, and we know that the voters of the country will punish them and the whole Republican Party if the ways and means committee and the House deliver the goods bargained for by the brewers when Mr. Babcock, the chairman of the congressional committee of the Republican Party, was collecting campaign funds from corporations and bodies which 'needed' revenue legislation favorable to their pockets.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD UP TO DATE.
—*The Rocky Mountain News, Denver.*

"If in return for those lager contributions the internal-revenue tax on beer is diminished, the members of the House who permit it and the Republican Party generally will discover a pretty kettle of fish in the election of November, 1902."

The Brooklyn *Standard-Union*, another strongly Republican paper, remarks: "The committee say the brewers should get a share of the general reduction, but the justice of this contention is not obvious. The gentlemen who will divide these ten millions between them are certainly in no danger of dying of starvation, and the general impression is that they are a very wealthy as well as a greedy lot. It is one of the foundation principles of taxtion that luxuries should be made to contribute revenue in preference to necessities, and the taxes on beer and spirits and wines should, as a general rule, be the first to go on and the last to come off." The Chicago *Tribune* (Rep.) observes that "some Representatives have exaggerated ideas of the political influence of the brewers, and for that reason are willing to bid for their support," and adds: "The taxes on spirits, fermented liquors, and tobacco are the mainstay of the Government. They furnish more revenue than customs duties do, while the cost of collection is much less. An intelligent Congress will let these productive duties severely alone." The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* (Ind. Dem.), remarking upon the report that the Administration opposes the reduction in the beer tax, asks: "Which is stronger with the majority in Congress, the Administration or beer? Is beer strong enough to dominate both Congress and the Administration when it comes to the final

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test of strength? Watch the course of the revenue-reduction bill for the answer."

Not all the papers, however, take the attitude of those quoted above. The Philadelphia *Times* (Dem.), for example, says:

"The additional tax on beer, making a government exaction of $2 per barrel, has been most oppressive upon the honest brewers, and it has done immeasurable harm to the public by the introduction of unwholesome beer that would be manufactured more cheaply. Unlike tobacco, the price for a glass of beer could not be changed. It would be quite easy to add a half cent or a cent to a pound of tobacco, but the price of a glass of beer can not exceed five cents, and the result of the oppressive tax on beer has been to cripple our best brewers, and give birth to a swarm of brewers who must make inferior beer to pay the tax and have profit in their enterprise, whereby the beer-drinkers have suffered greatly.

"The tax of $2 a barrel on beer is simply monstrous, and when it is remembered that the beer-drinkers of America now constitute a large portion of our people, that the number is steadily increasing, and that the tax must be reduced to maintain an honest brewing system, there should be no hesitation in repealing entirely the extra war tax on beer."

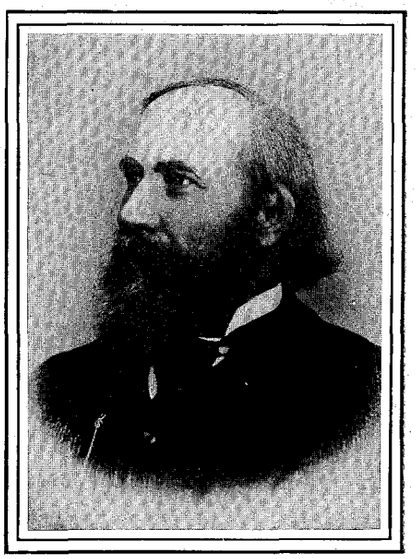
The San Francisco *Chronicle* (Rep.) says:

"The beer tax is a certain source of large revenue when necessary, and should be kept as a reserve for emergencies. The good people who want high beer taxes for the sake of discouraging beer-drinking know nothing about the subject. The beer tax does not diminish consumption by a mugful, but simply makes a lot of poor men pay taxes. The tax, of course, could be made high enough to make people drink wine or whisky instead of beer, but the present tax is not high enough for that. The temperance question is not involved in any way. It is purely a question of revenue and should be considered as such."

PRESIDENT J. J. HILL ON SHIPPING SUBSIDIES.

NEW light was turned on the shipping subsidy bill now before Congress at the recent dinner of the Bankers' Club in Chicago by President James J. Hill of the Great Northern Railroad. President Hill is having four of the largest steamers in the world built for the Pacific trade, and as they are being built in the United States, and as the bill proposes that thirty per cent. of the $9,000,000 yearly subsidy be given to the Pacific trade, Mr. Hill's steamers would come in for a generous slice. Many newspapers regard his adverse criticism of the bill, therefore, as unquestionably disinterested and entitled to great weight. He first surprised his hearers by saying that "we can build ships in this country as well and as cheaply as they can be built anywhere in the world. Now, I had figures within the last year furnished from the best builders on the Clyde, and figures from as good builders as there are in this country, and to my utter amazement the American figures on a single ship were £8,000 to £10,000 under the best Clyde builders, and when we get the ship subsidy that is promised see how happy we shall be. Unfortunately the kind of ship that is to receive the subsidy is one that may need it, but it is one that the country at large does not need. I allude to these ocean greyhounds." Mr. Hill declared, however, that he believed a subsidy "is an excellent thing, like a good many other things, if it is not abused," and that "if we could pay a tonnage on the actual commodities of a certain kind based on the distance carried, there would be some justice in a subsidy." Then he went on (to quote from the report of his speech printed in the Chicago *Times-Herald*) to make a still more interesting statement. He said:

"I analyzed the first bill that was drawn carefully, and I found that out of the $9,000,000 about $7,500,000 went to what is known as the American Line. At the same time, why should we as a nation pay $9,000,000 a year for thirty years and have seven eighths of it go to ten or twelve ships? I am glad to say that when attention was called to this the bill was amended, and it is now in much better shape. The $9,000,000 is to be distributed *pro rata* among all the ships that are entitled to sail under the American flag, and they have set apart thirty per cent. of the appropriations for the Pacific Ocean. Maybe some of my good friends thought they were serving me, and I have no doubt they were, in a money way; but at the same time we are building our ships with or without a subsidy, and I would rather see the duty on ships taken off or the duty on the plates that are to go into the ships.



J. J. HILL,
President of the Great Northern Railroad.

"We will be able to manufacture ships here as well as they can anywhere else and will be able to sail them, because with labor on the lakes higher than it is anywhere else, we find that ore is carried a thousand miles for three shillings a ton, and coal for one shilling six pence a ton, while in Great Britain it costs from five to six shillings to carry it five hundred miles. If Congress will appropriate $180,000,000 for a class of ships that will reduce the cost of carrying our commerce to new markets we have a right to feel they have done well; but we do not think they should give the bulk of it to twenty or twenty-one ships that are only compelled to run twenty-one knots once to the satisfaction of the government officer detailed for that purpose. If the cargo space is engaged to any ship and paid for, the ship is not compelled to carry it. We did get a condition that a ship must carry a cargo of at least half of her capacity in American products outgoing.

"But I see a provision in the bill that if her space is engaged to any company—for instance, if the space on the Pacific Mail was engaged to the transcontinental lines to keep the Pacific Mail quiet and from cutting rates—she would have complied with the conditions, because she received pay for the space, altho she did not carry the cargo, and that, I think, would be a mistake. I think that would fail to help anybody outside of the stockholders in the Pacific Mail. The ship has been paid to keep her hands off; she ought not to be paid twice. Notwithstanding that, if the bill passes it will not be the first mistake the country has made, and it will not be altogether a mistake or altogether a loss if it results in starting the upbuilding of a merchant marine under the American flag."

Many of the Republican and practically all of the Democratic papers are opposing the bill, principally because it provides such generous rewards for the ocean "flyers" and so much less for the humble freighters which must form the bulk of the merchant marine. The Cleveland *Leader* (Rep.) remarks that the main business of the flyers "is to carry rich Americans to foreign markets where they spend their money lavishly; not to take American products to markets where foreigners would buy them," and it goes on to say: "There is a simple way to stop nearly all of the hostile criticism of the subsidy bill. If it merely provided that a certain payment should be made to owners of American-built vessels, for every ton mile of actual cargo carried, the freight to be the products of the United States, the help for American exporters and producers would be plain and direct."

The Kansas City *Journal* (Rep.), the Colorado Springs *Ga-*

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zette (Rep.), and the Philadelphia *Inquirer* (Rep.) favor the bill. Says *The Inquirer:*

"There is but one way to look at the proposed ship subsidy, and that is in the light of a purely business proposition. It is nothing else.

"We put up $9,000,000 a year, considerably less than that in fact, when the mail contracts are taken into consideration, and we aim at securing a goodly proportion of the $200,000,000 a year which we are now paying steamship companies.

"There is a vast difference between $9,000,000 and $200,000,000. If we put up our money, we shall expect it to return to us many-fold.

"As to the argument that only rich ship-owners will be benefited, that is false on its face. When we build ships we give employment to American workmen and American shipyards. When we sail these American ships we employ a large number of American seamen. When we pay freight rates to these American ships, the money does not go abroad, but remains in this country.

"Ocean commerce is profitable, and it is worth while trying to get our share of it."

LABOR QUESTION IN THE SOUTH.

FOR idyllic relations between employer and employed, look to the South. That is the gist of an article in *The Textile World* (Boston) by Mr. Cuyler Smith, a Southern cotton manufacturer. No "wage slavery," no "class consciousness," seems to exist there, and all attempts of "labor leaders" to organize unions and start labor wars seem to have failed. Mr. Smith tells the reason for this as follows:

"The operatives of the new cotton-factories are the children and grandchildren of the men who fought in the Civil War, now gray veterans who spend the evening of their lives in the cottage chimney corners, oracles and Nestors for all the young folks gone up to town to handle the spinning-frame and loom.

"No sooner is a mill company organized by the progressive capitalists of the village than the old soldier, hearing the good news bawled over the fence by a passing neighbor, back from a day's trading in town, calls up his family and announces his intention of journeying 'ter town termorrer, an' I reckon the colonel will give yer er chanst ter help him run his factory.'

"The old man does go to the colonel, the same man who led him and his friends on the great battle-fields of that regrettable struggle. He takes his wealthy friend aside and bespeaks his 'takin' them chillun, ever one uv 'em, in yer new mill. Me and my ole woman need the support, Colonel, an' the chillun will sho' work yer way, sah, if yer'll only give um er chanst.'

"The mill is built, and the old man brings the hands to live in the clean, brightly painted cottage on the hill to begin a new life where all the family may work and earn more clear money in one month than they have made in twelve months on the cotton farm.

"The old man goes home to his cabin, but the young people are never away from his conservative influence, for Saturday night sees them going out for Sunday at the old home. Then all questions, especially the one now coming to the front, 'Shall we join a labor union?' are discussed. These old men advise against the joining of a union. Monday the operatives are at the mill, and turned a deaf ear to the organizer who was eagerly listened to last week. It is a combination of all these peculiar conditions that makes the growth of labor unions among Southern cotton-mill workers slow growth."

Another factor that makes for industrial peace in the new manufacturing South is the fact that the stock in the cotton-mills is owned by the local bankers, merchants, and farmers, large and small, so that "an operative is usually a cousin of some stockholder." The managers of the mills, too, feel a personal interest in the employees. Says Mr. Smith:

"One Georgian, who has made a large fortune by manufacturing, said, looking at his operatives passing out from the mill, 'I enjoy feeding and clothing these people more than all the money I have made.' Another said to me, 'I am taking all my operatives picnicking Saturday and footing the bills myself.' This

SANTA CLAUS PAYNE MAKING THE TAX-PAYERS HAPPY.
—*The Philadelphia Inquirer.*

Courtesy of Harper & Bros., New York.

"THIS CHIMNEY WELL FILLED MEANS A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL"
—*Harper's Weekly.*

CHRISTMAS CARTOONS.

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man gives his young help half an hour off twice a day to play in the grove surrounding that mill.

"Many mills, ilke those at Pelzer and Piedmont, S. C., provided free schools and enforce attendance. These are the two largest Southern mills. House rent is usually gratis, or at the rate of 50 cents per room a month. Fuel is at a nominal cost, and not necessary, save for cooking, exceeding ninety days a year."

Wages, Mr. Smith says, are about ten per cent. lower than in the East, and the hours are longer, but "the operatives have so vastly improved their condition by working in the mill, not on the farm, that they are little inclined to ask for shorter hours or increased wages. They are the most uniformly contented and prosperous class in the South." The factory at High Shoals, for example, has been in operation forty years with labor drawn from the vicinity, and "no strike has ever occurred, not even a misunderstanding arisen." Trion factory in Northern Georgia, established by the Allgood family, affords another instance. It has been running fifty-five years, and "no strike, friction of any kind, or demand for change of hours or pay ever occurred at this large mill." Practically all the operatives are white, the blacks acting as servants in the operatives' households or draymen at the mill. (Some leaders among the Southern blacks have organized cotton-mills to be operated by negro labor, but this interesting phase of the Southern industrial situation is still in the experimental stage.) It is Mr. Smith's opinion that "the negroes are going to return to farming when the whites come to the mill." He adds: "A negro can't work in a mill. The hum of the machinery would put him to sleep, and if he even got a dollar ahead he would loaf a week."

Constitutionality of the "Jim Crow" Car Law.—The decision of the United States Supreme Court, upholding the Kentucky statute that requires railroads to furnish separate cars for white and colored passengers, has directed attention to a peculiar phase of the race question in the South. A colored passenger on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad in Kentucky sought entrance to a car reserved for white passengers. Being refused admittance, he brought against the railroad company the suit in which this decision is given. In the opinion of the Boston *Journal*, the decision is one that will not commend itself to "friends of liberty and fair play." "It is cruelly unjust," maintains this paper, "that a person should be discriminated against in public conveyances for no better reason than the color of his skin." The leading negro paper, the New York *Age*, is very indignant at the decision, and declares:

"We can not for the life of us see how the Supreme Court can uphold such pronounced and mischievous and vicious class legislation as the separate car legislation. It is against the letter and spirit of the Federal Constitution and works direct and burdensome vitiation of the law of contract. Such legislation would not be tolerated by any other race element of the citizenship and it will not be always tolerated by us.

"The Supreme Court has always been and is the most dangerous coordinate branch of our system of government."

Of course the Southern papers take a very different view of the matter. Says the New Orleans *Daily Picayune*:

"The fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution guarantees equal political and social rights to whites and negroes, but it does not confer any franchise either upon whites or negroes to secure these rights at the expense of the other. Equal rights, without discrimination, mean simply equal accommodation and treatment; but it does not mean taking away from one to give to the other. Separate but equal accommodation fulfils the meaning of the constitutional provision, and separate cars, with equal provision for each race, satisfy the constitutional requirement. The courts justly refuse to construe the law so as to force either race into intimate association with the other."

"The decision in the Kentucky case," observes the Atlanta *Journal*, "knocks another hole in the Federal civil rights law, which is now about as dead as it ever will be."

NEWSPAPER VIEWS OF THE ARMY "CANTEEN."

KEEN interest in the welfare of the private soldier marks the comment of the press on the proposed prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors in army posts. This prohibition is expressed in an amendment to the army reorganization bill which declares that "the sale of or dealing in beer, wine, or any intoxicating liquors by any person in any post exchange or canteen or on any transport or upon any premises used for military purposes by the United States is prohibited. The Secretary of War is hereby directed to carry the provisions of this section into full force and effect." The bill passed the House in this form (with the manifest approval of many members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, who crowded the galleries) by a vote of 159 to 51, and it is now before the Senate. Friends of the canteen are aroused by this action of the House, and one of them, Congressman Fitzgerald (Dem.), of Massachusetts, offered an amendment prohibiting the sale of liquor in the Capitol building; it was ruled "out of order." "It is generally believed at the War Department," says *The Army and Navy Journal*, "that this amendment, which in reality abolishes the canteen, will be voted down in the Senate, where the canteen has many friends," and several other papers make a similar prediction. "But whether the Senate decides to follow the House in abolishing the canteen or not," observes the Pittsburg *Dispatch* (Rep.), "it may be hoped that the result will be a law that is enforced, and not, as recently, a law that says one thing and is construed to have an opposite meaning"; and the Minneapolis *Tribune* (Rep.) suggests that if the temperance reformers "could go a step farther and secure the prohibition of the sale of liquor near army posts or premises used for army purposes, they might consider that they had secured a valuable reform." The Chicago *Record* (Ind.) remarks: "The canteen law will destroy at least one abuse—the selling of liquor privileges on transports to civilians, whose profit depends directly on the amount of consumption they can induce on the long voyages across the Pacific ocean." Perhaps the stoutest defense of the anti-canteen law that has appeared in the daily press is found in the Cleveland *Leader* (Rep.), which says:

"Everybody who believes that it is grossly wrong for the Government to be responsible, directly or indirectly, for placing temptation in the way of its soldiers, will rejoice at the action of the House and hope for similar action by the Senate, and even if the abolition of the canteen leads to an increase of drunkenness by forcing the soldiers to go outside of their camps, barracks, and reservations for a greater indulgence in the use of intoxicating liquors than would have been resorted to if all purchases were made through the canteen, it will not be possible to charge that the Government is directly responsible.

"Congress should go further than to prohibit the sale of liquor at army posts and camps and upon government transports. The sale of liquor should be prohibited at the Capitol building in Washington, in the cafés that are patronized by the members of the House and Senate. It is shameful that the sale of intoxicating liquor should be permitted in any building under government control and which is supported by the money collected from all the people. It is time for the Government to sever its connection with the liquor traffic entirely."

The great majority of the daily press, however, favor the canteen, on the ground that it keeps the soldiers away from worse resorts. The Brooklyn *Eagle* (Ind.) calls it "the best device for the inculcation of temperance that the army has ever known," and the Chicago *Inter Ocean* (Rep.) declares that "of the utility of the canteen as a promoter of temperance there is absolutely no question." "Congress can hardly afford," says the Kansas

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City *Journal* (Rep.), to "turn its back on all the medical and official testimony to the effect that the moral and general condition of the army is much better under the canteen system than it was before"; and the New York *Times* (Ind.) declares that "there is no excuse whatever for any Congressman's misunderstanding that, in voting for this amendment, he was voting to promote drunkenness, and consequently inefficiency and indiscipline, in the United States army." These and many other papers declare that the soldiers, deprived of the canteen, will go, as the New York *Commercial Advertiser* (Rep.) expresses it, "into the most brutalizing temptation that besets their life; that of the horrible haunts of poisonous liquor and depraved men and women which fester on the edge of army reservations." The idea that the abolition of the canteen will increase vice in the neighborhood of army posts, where it can not be controlled by the army officers, is widely prevalent, and the view of the papers that favor the canteen is concisely expressed by the Detroit *News* (Ind.) which remarks: "A notable victory has been gained by a strange combination with the W. C. T. U. at one end and the liquor interests at the other. The army will be the chief sufferer."

The W. C. T. U. and the Prohibitionists, who have urged the passage of the anti-canteen amendment, come in for a number of pitying remarks from papers which consider them well-meaning but misguided folk who are injuring the cause they are trying to help. The Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph* (Rep.), for instance, says that "the abolition of the canteen is a concession to the noisy Prohibitionists who can not be prevailed upon to look beyond their noses, and are therefore the worst enemies that the cause of true temperance has to contend with"; and the Tacoma *Ledger* (Rep.) says of the W. C. T. U. that "it is to be regretted that the members of this excellent union are not content to labor in a field where they may be of influence, to deal with subjects concerning which they have knowledge, and to regard as having been based on good faith the conclusions of patriotic and moral citizens who have the misfortune to belong to the other sex." The Chicago *Evening Post* (Ind. Rep.) declares that it "ventures the prediction that within a year many of the present most zealous advocates of this measure will as strenuously agitate for the return of the canteen as being more temperate than prohibition."

The Hartford *Times* (Ind.Dem.), in its comment in favor of the canteen, gives a sketch of its history. It says:

"We are thoroughly familiar with this whole question. Twenty years ago our little army was in a very low condition morally, and suffered to a scandalous extent from desertions. Thousands of drunken vagabonds were accepted as recruits every year, and then allowed to run away without completing their terms of service. There was a change in the office of adjutant-general of the army and a wise and humane officer went to work to raise the standard of character among the enlisted men. The entrances to all the army posts were infested with vile dram shops to which the soldiers resorted whenever they were granted a few hours' leave. It was discovered that the only way to abolish these vicious resorts was to make an attractive club-room for the men on the government grounds, where tobacco, beer, and various knick-knacks, such as men have a right to buy wherever liberty prevails, could be purchased by them. The 'post-traders' store,' as the successor of the sutlers' shop was known, was abolished, and the accursed dram-shops disappeared. A tremendous change for the better took place in the morale of our regular army.

"It seems to us that the fanaticism for total abstinence which now seeks to restore the old immoral conditions in the army is not only stupid, but wicked. Satan may well rejoice over the destruction of the army canteen."

Hazing at West Point.—The death of Cadet Oscar L. Booz at his h me in Bristol, Pa., and the belief that his fatal illness was due to hazing at West Point, has aroused a demand, voiced by many papers, for an investigation. As the Detroit *Free Press* says: "According to the story the boy reluctantly told his father when his malady had reached such a stage that medical assistance was of no avail, after he had been whipped in a fight, a burning mixture, supposed to have contained Tobasco sauce, Worcestershire sauce, and red pepper was forced down his throat. The throat was injured, tuberculosis subsequently developed, and the boy died." Colonel Mills (the superintendent of the academy), a committee appointed by the Secretary of War, and a committee from the House of Representatives are conducting separate inquiries into the affair, and the result is being awaited with wide interest. "The investigation should be so thorough," says the Philadelphia *Ledger*, "as to clear up all doubts in the public mind, and it will prove of especial value if it results in dissipating the notion, widely prevalent in the army mind, that a stiff course of hazing is required to make an officer courageous and manly. The navy and its officers, as well as its men, are the source of pride to the country. The navy performs its duty as well as the army; its officers have not been found wanting at the severest pinch, and yet hazing was summarily cast out root and branch years ago from the Naval Academy at Annapolis." The New York *Sun* declares that "it is as wrong for any one assuming to be a friend of the Military Academy to maintain that something of this sort is needed to make young men 'good soldiers' as it is idle to say that it can not be suppressed in so large a body of young men"; and it seems to the Philadelphia *Press* that "no man who delights in brutality or terrorism inflicted upon one beneath him in position, and his junior in years, particularly so far as the West Point Military Academy is concerned, can lay claim to being 'an officer and a gentleman.'"

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

WASHINGTON is 100 years old; but it doesn't always act that way.—*The Detroit News.*

GENERAL MERCIER fails to state how the French army would get back again.—*The Detroit Tribune.*

THE river and harbor bill is beginning to show a restless desire to do business with the surplus.—*The Chicago Record.*

HAVING elected a new Congress a month ago, we now permit the old one to meet and make laws for us.—*The Detroit News.*

BY this time President Kruger must know just how much buttering of parsnips is done by kind words.—*The Detroit Free Press.*

GENERAL MERCIER of France gives evidence of having been reading Billy Mason's speeches.—*The Detroit Tribune.*

IT would not be a bad idea for the people of Philadelphia to apply the rummage-sale plan to their councilmen in February.—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

SOME of the able Democratic editors seemed determined to reduce the war taxes without waiting for the aid or consent of Congress.—*The Chicago Tribune.*

A KENTUCKY girl is to marry a German baron, but as she is not an heiress and he has a good job the affair is not attracting much attention.—*The Denver Times.*

THERE is nothing on the boards that has had a longer continuous run than General Otis's prediction that the Philippine insurrection is about to end.—*The Detroit Tribune.*

LORD ROBERTS ended the war before sailing for home, and now Kitchener is to be allowed to end it. Thus will there be glory enough to go around.—*The Chicago Record.*

AH.—The New York *Sun* wants to know where the idiotic phrase "chewing the rag" came from. We are not sure, but are inclined to think it came from New York.—*The Kansas City Journal.*

MR. PLATT has decided on a single-headed police government for New York. It will not be necessary to start a guessing-match in order to locate the identity of the real head.—*The Washington Post.*

RUINS.—"Ah!" said the Englishman, "but you have no ruins in your country." "We haven't, eh?" the American replied. "Say, you ought to see Dave Hill and W. L. Wellington!"—*The Chicago Times-Herald.*

BACON: "I understand a member of the Anti-Imperialist League had a bad fainting spell the other day." Egbert: "Indeed?" "Yes, he heard his wife was about to appear in an Empire gown."—*The Yonkers Statesman.*

CITIZEN: "My house at No. 4,916,718 Uneasy Street was robbed last night!" Police Captain (to clerk): "Mr. Smith, please look in your books and see if a permit was issued to anybody to rob the premises at No. 4,916,718 Uneasy Street, last night."—*Puck.*

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.—The fact that so many ex-aldermen own dives should not be confounded in any way with the doctrine of municipal ownership, tho the pull they have on the local government might indicate something of the kind.—*The Chicago Record.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

AN ALPINE CHRISTMAS PLAY.

IN medieval times, the Christmas mystery play was one of the chief features of Christmas morning in many European towns, and for a period had a recognized place in the church liturgy. The chief points of the lesson, which formed a regular part of the Christmas office, and often consisted of portions of St. Augustine's sermon "De Natale Domini," were represented dramatically in the nave of the church. Survivals of this custom still exist in some of the more out-of-the-way corners of Southern Europe, and traces of it are found in the manger and figures of wood still to be seen at Christmastide in many Roman Catholic churches even in this country. The best of the surviving specimens of the Christmas pastoral is said to be the one performed yearly in the valleys of Cuorgnè, in Piedmont. The Countess Evelyn Martinengo-Cesaresco, the English wife of an Italian nobleman, and the author of several well-known studies in folk-lore in the leading reviews, gives an interesting account of this play. Count Nigra, the present Italian ambassador at Vienna, she says, remembers having taken part in it when a child, "in the character of a herald angel, with wings of peacock feathers." To him we owe the preservation of the text of this pastoral drama, about which the Countess gives the following details in *The Atlantic Monthly* (December):

"The necessary personages in this dramatic scene are eleven shepherds and one angel, but three angels are preferred when they can be had. Mary and Joseph do not appear. A side altar is converted into a manger, in which the image of the Babe lies. Midnight mass has advanced as far as the Credo when the performance opens with what is called an 'angelic prolog.' In this homily, the congregation are requested to be very attentive; then, on this dark night, they will behold great portents. They will see the shepherds draw near to worship a new-born Babe, in whom, with melting hearts, they recognize their Redeemer. The prolog ends with the words: 'Whoso desires happiness and justice, let him seek them in God, for they are not to be found among men; and now, may all things proceed with order, and may we meet one day in heaven.'

"A knocking is heard at the chief entrance: the priest opens the door, and the eleven shepherds walk into the church. They wear long white woolen cloaks and broad-brimmed hats which they keep on their heads. Each carries a staff in one hand, and his offering in the other. Montano brings a lamb; Alceste, two pigeons; Volpino, honey; Silvio, fresh butter; Evandro, milk; Menalca, grapes (they are hung up in a dry place, so as to keep till December). Tigrane carries a pair of turtledoves; Titiro, apples; Polibeo, eggs; Mirteo, two chickens; Melibeo, cloth for swadding-clothes. The gifts remain with the priest, but, like the ancient sacrifice, they are in very truth offered to Deity. This custom has endeared the ceremonial to the poor, who are so fond of giving. They *feel* that their offerings actually supply the wants of their infant Lord, and feeling is much more real than thinking or knowing.

"The crowd, which densely fills the little church, leaves a clear space for the shepherds in the middle of the building. Montano remarks that here they are with their gifts, but he has no idea why Melibeo, the oldest shepherd, has called them hither while the sun is still asleep. Questions and answers gradually disclose the fact that Melibeo supposed, from the appearance of the heavens, the time to be come for the birth of Him who should fulfil the promise of Abraham. While they are speaking, Melibeo suddenly declares that even now a light illumines the sky, the grass grows green, streams freed from ice run with a sweet murmur, flowers burst forth, hill and valley smile as in April. The younger shepherds, overpowered by fear, inquire if any one ever saw so light a night, or, rather, so light a day. The congregation take this transformation on faith, but there soon appears a tangible angel who invites the shepherds to follow him to the manger. 'Here,' he says, 'is the august palace of the Word made man.'

"In the next scene, the shepherds, by their homely remarks, elicit from the angel an exposition of Christian doctrine:

Alceste. Look in how poor and rude a shed
The King of kings has found a bed.
Angel. Here 'twas he uttered his first cry,
That you might learn humility.
Montano. Naked he meets the wintry night
Angel. The road is hard to heaven's height.
Titiro. He shakes with cold in every part.
Angel. Yet doth a flame ignite his heart.
Melibeo. He never murmurs nor complains.
Angel. That you may learn to bear your pains.
Volpino. Poor rags his body scarcely hide.
Angel. Thus to reprove the sins of pride.
Evandro. It seems as if the ox and cow
Were drawing nigh to warm him now.
Angel. The succor thoughtless beasts supply,
Less feeling man shall oft deny.
Silvio. In what deep poverty he lies!
Angel. To teach you greatness to despise.
Mirteo. He seems beyond all mortal aid.
Angel. Who trusts in God is ne'er afraid.
Menalca. His woful state to pity moves.
Angel. So heaven tries the soul it loves.
Polibeo. His childish tears are falling fast.
Angel. Blood will be there for tears at last.
Tigrane. How soft his limbs! How delicate!
Angel. One day the scourge will lacerate.
In this rich cradle you may see
Even he whose mighty hand,
And whose eterne command,
Formed heaven, created earth, and ordered hell to be.

"At this point each shepherd deposits his gifts. Apologies are offered for the poorness of the present, except in the case of the lamb—an exception which shows a rare sense of the fitness of things possessed by the forgotten author whose work has lasted longer than his name. The dedication of the lamb is solemn: 'Pure as thou art pure; guiltless as thou art guiltless; fated victim as thou art fated victim: Lord, may this my gift be acceptable in Thy sight.' Of the other offerings, it is confessed that they are but common things, tho they are the very best of their kind. (This is exactly what a real peasant says when he makes you a present.) The apples are of the sweetest; the cloth took years to weave; there never was such honey; the milk is milked from the pet ewe. But what are such things for a King? Each giver, after his little speech, adds himself to his gift:

Ei t' offre tutto assieme
Il dono e il donator.

Sometimes a kid, a wolfskin, a hare, or a few flowers are added to the gifts."

When all the gifts have been presented, Montano says that they will go forth and spread the good news abroad. The congregation join in a carol. Out of the church the mountain folk depart into the silence of the Alpine winter night.

The Passing of the Arch.—The final abandonment of the plan for a permanent naval arch in sculptured stone, to perpetuate the temporary but beautiful structure in Madison Square, New York, has called out many expressions of regret. The wooden and staff arch has now been removed, and the cash and pledges—amounting to about $200,000—are to be returned to the donors. The Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph* (December 5) thus expresses the view of most out-of-town papers and of most lovers of art:

"A serious loss to art will be caused by the abandonment of the project to perpetuate the Dewey arch in New York by reproducing it in stone, bronze, and other enduring material. . . . . .

"The design of the arch was very attractive and artistic, and while this design may be kept on record by drawings and plans, the effect of the work as a public monument will be lost, and that is a loss distinctly to be regretted. So also the sculptural works, statues, busts, and decorative details may be kept on record and other artists may even have plaster casts made of their more important figures; but the assembling of these works in one harmonious design, a noble, dignified commemorative monument, is now a thing of the past, never to be restored."

The Brooklyn *Eagle* (December 4) says:

"It is too bad that the arch could not be reproduced in perma-

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nent form. No finer monumental group has ever been produced in this country. Some enthusiasts would say that it was unsurpassed in any country. It would have been a splendid reminder of the glory of the American seamen. Some day such a monument will be built, either in this city or in Washington, and if the sculptors and architects produce anything better than this we may well be proud of the progress which has been made in the arts."

OSCAR WILDE.

THE name of Oscar Wilde, who during at least two periods of his career was the subject of talk in two continents, has not been heard of late; but his death in an obscure hotel in the Quartier Latin, Paris, has again drawn attention to him. It is said that he had been living there for some months under the name of "Manmoth," in considerable deprivation, and that shortly before his death he was received into the Roman Catholic Church. The New York *Times* (December 1) gives the following sketch of his life:

"Oscar Wilde was born in Dublin in 1856. He was the son of Sir William R. Wills Wilde, M.D., surgeon-oculist to Queen Victoria, antiquarian, statistician, and man of letters, and of Jane Francesca, Lady Wilde, who achieved considerable reputation as a poetess. Oscar's first schooling was at the Portora Royal School, Enniskillen, and later he studied at Trinity College, Dublin, and at Magdalen College, Oxford University. The brilliancy of his parents was transmitted to him. At Trinity College he won the Berkeley gold medal for Greek, and he won many class honors at Oxford, chief among them being the Newdigate prize, with a poem entitled 'Ravenna.'

"In 1879 he went to London, and soon became a celebrity through the esthetic fad which he started. His craze for esthetic-ism was accompanied by eccentricities of dress, which soon made him one of the most talked about persons in London. He clad himself in black velvet, with knickerbockers, and black silk stockings, and he wore a sunflower. He was caricatured by Du Maurier in *Punch*, and satirized by Gilbert in 'Patience.' In *Punch* he was labeled 'Postlethwaite,' in 'Patience' 'Bunthorne.' The advertising he received was just what he wanted. He took advantage of it to effect a contract for a lecture tour in America. The tour was not the success he had anticipated, but he made some money out of it. On his return to England Wilde dropped all his eccentricities of dress, but his other affectations became greater than ever. In the high social circles of London, to which he had entrée, he was regarded as a brilliant conversationalist and poseur.

"Wilde's first published book was his Newdigate prize poem, printed in 1879, and well received by the reviewers. After his return from the United States he applied himself industriously to literary work. The most popular of Wilde's books was 'The Picture of Dorian Gray,' which has had an immense sale, both in the United Kingdom and this country. It appeared first in *Lippincott's Magazine*, in 1895, and was afterward issued in book form, with considerable additions, by Ward, Lock & Co. After the famous trial the London publishers withdrew it from circulation, altho inundated with orders for copies.

"Among literary people 'Intentions,' published in 1894, is regarded as Wilde's finest prose work. It is a collection of essays, and, tho full of the author's favorite paradoxes, contains much art criticism which shows evidences of careful thought. Some of the essays, notably 'The Decay of Lying' and 'The Critic as Artist,' had previously appeared in English reviews and had attracted a good deal of attention.

"Wilde's poems were first published in 1881, and a new edition was issued at the Bodley Head about ten years later. Both editions were exhausted a very short time after publication. Many isolated stanzas and lines have been quoted to show that, had he possessed the necessary perseverance and stedfastness of character, Wilde could have been one of the great poets of the nineteenth century. Many persons have also noticed the remarkable forecast of his own life which the author wrote in the dedication of this volume of verse, and the passionate regret there expressed that he had not used his gifts to better purpose. Among Wilde's other published works, exclusive of his plays, are 'The House of Pomegranates—Colored Poems in Prose,' with illustrations by Arthur Ricketts and C. H. Shannon; 'Salome,' written in French, illustrated by Aubrey Beardsley; 'The Happy Prince,' a volume of fairy tales, and 'Lord Arthur Saville's Crime,' a collection of short stories. After Wilde's release from prison a poem was published anonymously, entitled 'A Ballad of Reading Jail.' It created a great deal of interest and favorable criticism, and is now known to have been written by Wilde."

Two somewhat different views of Wilde are offered in the following excerpts. The Philadelphia *North American* (December 4) says:

"Oscar Wilde died as he should have died, in foul obscurity. For his life was more than a personal disgrace—it shamed humanity. Had he possessed ten times the talent that was his, the disgust which his vices inspired in healthy minds would not have been lessened, but increased. In proportion to intelligence is moral responsibility, and Wilde, with a mind incomparably superior to the average, chose to crawl down where beasts refuse to go. That he should have been able to outlive exposure proves how utterly the manhood had been rotted out of him. He descended below pity and affected normal men as the sight of a loathsome reptile does. . . . . .

"To praise this man's literary work where it was good is permissible, but no gifts, no poems, no plays, no books should be offered as an offset to the man's life by too charitable obituarians. If Wilde's name is to live, in righteousness it must be linked indissolubly with the English jail and the death-garret in Paris."

The Detroit *Evening News* says:

"Just as the depravity of some of the Elizabethan writers, Marlowe, Massinger, and others, is now forgotten by all but the patient bookworm and the minor historian, so in the future the personality of Wilde will disappear, to the advantage of the literature he made. Readers who will never know of the progressive degeneration of the man will be charmed by the work of the author.

"Few recent writers of English have been more perfect masters of their medium than he. His novels and essays are models of prose composition. If they have a serious fault, it is overpolish, a fault easily forgiven in an age which has almost lost the art of saying things, in its hurry to get to the point. His plays have had, since Sheridan, no equals for wit; their dramatic construction is admirable, and what they lack in action is made up in brilliancy of dialog and in subtle delineation of character. . . . He exercised an appreciable influence upon English-speaking peoples. He was almost the founder of the cult of the beautiful in domestic decoration, both in Britain and America. By merciless ridicule, which kept many from the wrong way, and genuine instruction, which helped them to the right way, he did much toward establishing an authentic taste in art. People laughed at him, but followed while they laughed. In literature, too, he may be regarded as the founder of a school, and there are many authors, some of them notable, still following the paths which he discovered and pointed out. Even those writers who studied to ridicule him used his own terminology in the task."

The following are two of Wilde's best poems:

HELAS!

To drift with every passion, till my soul
Is a stringed lute, on which all winds may play!
Methinks my life is a twice-written scroll,
Scrawled over, on some boyish holiday,
With idle songs for pipe and virelay
Which do but mar the secret of the whole.
Surely there was a time when I might have trod
The sunlit heights, and from life's dissonance
Struck one clear chord to reach the ears of God.
Is that time dead? Lo! with a little rod
I did but touch the honey of romance—
And must I lose a soul's inheritance?

(Dedication to his first book of poems.)

THE BALLAD OF READING GAOL.

(Wilde's last poem.)

Ah! happy they whose hearts can break
And peace of pardon win!
How else may man make straight his plan
And cleanse his soul from sin?
How else but through a broken heart
May Lord Christ enter in?

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And he of the swollen purple throat
And the stark staring eyes
Waits for the holy hands that took
The Thief to Paradise;
And a broken and a contrite heart
The Lord will not despise.

. . . . .

And all men kill the thing they love,
By all let this be heard:
Some do it with a bitter look,
Some with a flattering word.
The coward does it with a kiss,
The brave man with a sword!

A GREAT TRAGEDIAN ON THE ACTORS' ART.

THE leading actor of the German stage, A. Sonnenthal, who is at the head of the famous Vienna Burgtheater and enjoys a world-wide reputation, has written a review of his forty years' career as an interpreter of the classical and modern drama. He discusses the principles of his art, the condition of the stage in the various countries, and the merits of the various schools and theories of acting. He objects strongly to the attempt to erect "new" and modern standards of acting. He denies that there has been an improvement in the direction of greater realism. He says:

"They try to convince me that the ideas and methods of forty years ago have became antiquated, and that we must play in an altogether different way. But how? Realistically! What is realism? Naturalness and fidelity to truth. Have not these qualities belonged to our old masters? They did, except that our predecessors were never natural at the expense of beauty, never coarse and cynical at the expense of truth."

Mere photographic imitation is not truth, continues Sonnenthal, and the question for the actor is how to produce the impression of perfect naturalness. He answers:

"Mature reflection has led us to this conclusion: only by complete mental and spiritual absorption in one's task, only by entire identification with the character represented, by imagining oneself as living and moving in the given situation, can the actor attain to the illusion of reality—yes, reality and nature—without, however, overstepping to the slightest extent the limit of artistic beauty. I am aware that my celebrated colleagues disagree with me on this point. My friend Coquelin, for example, asserts that the artist must be above any given situation. When he once told me, 'My dear friend, it is twenty years since I have had emotion on the stage,' I was obliged to answer, 'And at the end of forty years I have not freed myself from the stage fever.' Coquelin does not enter his dressing-room till half an hour before the opening of the performance. I am generally there at that time, ready, with a fast-beating heart awaiting the signal which calls me into action."

The French, according to Sonnenthal, unquestionably excel in comedy, where delicacy, lightness of touch, and refinement are essential. But in serious drama and tragedy the Germans are far superior to them. They play simply and naturally, and quite skilfully manage the expression of the passions; but when the zenith is reached they fall short, and, instead of carrying away the auditor, they recall him to his ordinary state, induce complete sobriety, by carefully prepared pauses.

With regard to the influence of national characteristics on acting, Sonnenthal says:

"Let no one think that the French manner of playing is easily transplanted into another national tongue. The artists of all countries become imbued with their respective nationalities, languages, customs, and morals to a degree too deep to permit them to divest themselves of them all in their playing. It is as difficult for a German to interpret Molière faultlessly as it is to a French actor to impersonate a character of Goethe, Schiller, or even Lessing."

Sonnenthal gives some illustrations of this, but he lays special emphasis on the drawbacks to good acting in individual temperament and the difficulty of sinking one's personality in a part. "Salvini is unapproachably great in Othello, but in the rôle of Hamlet he is on a much lower plane. I know too well that in spite of all labor and effort I am unable to efface my own individuality. Every artist brings something of his own ego into the part he assumes. If that ego is strong, the impersonation will not suffer unduly. But I have never consented to play a part which was diametrically opposed to my own individuality." The actors who take utterly unsuitable parts come to grief, and hence each artist must know his own traits, limitations, and proclivities.

Sonnenthal acknowledges that applause is essential to the artist—it is bread and meat to him. Without it he can not react upon the spectator and bring him into the right mood. Sonnenthal has just finished a most successful engagement at St. Petersburg. He appeared in the United States late in 1899.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

"THE DOWNWARD COURSE OF ENGLISH LITERATURE."

MR. ANDREW LANG is distressed about the present condition of the human mind, especially of the literary species. The human intellect, like "the service," he says, has long been "going to the dogs." Old-fashioned people tell us that "nobody reads anything but newspapers and novels." Most reviewers "have long dropped the hypocrisy of pretending to own any acquaintance with the subjects of historical, antiquarian, anthropological, mythological, and other erudite books. They frankly avow their ignorance, unashamed." He continues (in *The Critic*, December):

"Poetry is still 'a drug in the market,' except when some new bard is welcomed as an exquisite blend of Shakespeare and Racine. 'Literary gossip' is concerned only with the wealth attained by a few manufacturers of fustian. Lately I saw a grown man reading Sully's 'Memoirs,' in French, too, and, like the Ancient Mariner, 'I blessed him unawares,' so unusual was the spectacle. The classics of all languages, as a lady lately declared in print, have become 'glorified school-books.'

"Every one admits that this is the condition of our intellectual affairs; that is, as far as literature is concerned. If evidence is desired, we might call into court the author of 'How to Write for the Magazines.' 'The style most in vogue,' remarks this literary expert, 'is what is known as the 'popular style'—a rather 'self-evident remark,' as the dustman said when the cook told him that he was no gentleman. He who would embrace the popular style 'must not indulge in fine work which is above the head of the person who spends his penny on *Answers* or *Pearson's*.' That person, that capitalist who lays out his penny, may be a dustman or a duke. But, intellectually, it must be difficult for a writer *not* to soar above his head. We are even warned 'not to write about things that the sixpenny reader of *The Strand* or *The Lady's Realm* can not understand, owing to limited education or capacity.' One may venture to hint that it is not so much the education or the natural capacity of the 'sixpenny reader' that is at fault, as his intellectual interest. The sixpenny reader' would probably understand 'Macbeth,' or 'Hamlet' (which one sixpenny reader 'did not call a very deep play'), but the sixpenny reader does not want to understand. He is in a state of abject intellectual indolence. With Mr. Darwin I believe that the mental faculties even of the lowest savages, or sixpenny readers, are much on a level with our own. The Australian black fellow, untutored, has no words for numerals above five. But when educated, he can count sheep up to thousands, as well as the Ettrick shepherd could have done. Uneducated, the savage has been too lazy to count above five, tho otherwise extremely clever, where his private interests are engaged. Now the sixpenny student is like the black fellow: he is indolent, not incapable. 'The public,' exclaims our author, 'will only read scrappy stuff, short tales, snatchy articles. The author who would make his bread must write, therefore, short

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tales, more or less poor, and scrappy articles.' Our author offers Mr. Kipling and the late Mr. G. W. Steevens as examples in 'the popular style.' . . . It is to this abysm that our intellectual interests have descended in the course of 1800–1900. The situation is bad for unlucky authors, like the present writer, who want to 'make their bread.' How are we to do it? It is too late for us to learn 'the popular style.' On the level of the sixpenny reader we can not keep, if we would; we are compelled to puzzle him by allusions to things once familiar, to events, persons, proverbs of which he never heard. We can not swim with him in that ocean of ignorance where he complacently wallows. If the times of this ignorance endure, heaven help English literature!

"Now a curious question arises. What is the history of this alarming process of intellectual decay? How did the England to which Burton of the 'Anatomy of Melancholy,' and Jeremy Taylor, and Dr. Johnson appeal—how did it become the England of 'the popular style,' of the imbecile anecdote, of the 'faked' interview, of the paragraph and the snippet? Whence arose the extreme mental laziness of the epoch?"

This intellectual degeneracy Mr. Lang traces to—Sir Walter Scott! "Before 1814, the birth-year of 'Waverley,'" he says, "novels were mere objects of contempt among the world of educated readers. By 1832, the year of Scott's death, Bulwer Lytton could seriously state that no literature but novel-writing had any pecuniary reward. There have been a few relapses into, or rather revivals of, intellectual interest, but the progress has been rapid from reading novels only to reading only 'short tales and snatchy articles'":

"The evidence of Mr. Rees shows us the very hour when intellectual interest in history decayed, namely, between 1810 and 1836. The Waverley Novels ran from 1814 to 1832. Everybody read *them*, many read Scott's imitators, most read novels and novels only, till the illustrated penny or sixpenny serials came in, with 'short tales and snatchy articles.' Thus the great author who, himself, first edited the Sadler Papers (of the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth), helped, by his romances, to destroy the popular care for every kind of book that is not a romance. The period of the 'Scotch Novels' is precisely the period of rapid degeneracy. Then arose railways, with railway bookstalls, and scrap periodicals; and photography, and flimsy picture-books."

But notwithstanding this unhappy aspect of the century, great writers, we are told, have at times driven back the incoming tide of sixpenny literature. Such was the feat accomplished by Froude and Macaulay, who made history so interesting that what answered to the matinée girl of that epoch actually found it more fascinating than fiction, and critics were sometimes in doubt as to whether it should not be designated by this more estimable title. Says Mr. Lang:

"In poetry, too, men of genius arose, and, with the great novelists of the middle of the century, arrested the process of intellectual decay. They arrested it, but, after their death, the tide returned, and swept us into the whirlpool of anecdote, interview, fustian, and police romance. Good new literature, historical literature especially, is neglected by the multitudinous sixpenny reader. But on the other hand a small semi-professional caste of students has arisen, and is probably increasing. If a new man of genius were to appear, he might win back many a sixpenny reader to an interest in better things.

"Meanwhile the danger is that serious readers, capable of attention, should become a kind of caste or class, like the more learned churchmen of the Middle Ages, while the mass of mankind remains, practically, as ignorant of anything worth knowing as the medieval laity who could not read at all. Even this ignorance is less deplorable than the habit of extreme mental indolence, which declines to exercise the habit of attention, which is fatigued by the intolerable tedium of an hour's reading on a single topic. The critics of the popular papers assist this idleness by denouncing as 'heavy' whatever is not merely frivolous; by contemning everything whereby men may learn something of the past, something of their own intellectual structure, something of the great literature bequeathed to us by our ancestors, or by Greece and Rome. It is difficult to believe that mental habits of sheer dawdling frivolity can be indulged without national degeneracy and discredit. In the past there have been periods when solid studies were actually fashionable, were dear to society, and engaged even courts in the intervals of war, of affairs, and of pleasure. This kind of vogue may have produced witlings and *précieuses*. But among the witlings were Frederick the Great and Charles II. It is a solemn fact that the court of the Restoration was infinitely more concerned with things of the mind than any European court of to-day. Among our statesmen we have not for history a Clarendon, for style a Shaftesbury or a Temple, a Buckingham for wit, a Dorset for poetry, a Wharton for accomplishment. Such matters are wholly out of fashion, and are naturally objects of contempt."

MR. HOWELLS ON THE NEW SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

THE romantic school in fiction as opposed to the naturalistic or the realistic school has always been a *bête noire* of a particularly black stripe to Mr. William Dean Howells; and in a recent article on "The New Historical Romances"—referring, of course, to such novels as "Richard Carvel," "Janice Meredith," "Hugh Wynne," "To Have and To Hold," "When Knighthood was in Flower," and others of the same genus—his old antipathy finds new and forcible expression. We are at present in a "welter of overwhelming romance," he remarks; most of the great masters of the natural school have ceased to be, and some have ceased to write. He tells over sorrowfully the roll of the illustrious dead and of those whose pens are now rarely active, and speculates on the causes of the "recent deluge of historical romance" (we quote from *The North American Review*, December):

"Flaubert and Maupassant, George Eliot and Anthony Trollope, Turgeneff and Dostoyevsky are dead; from Björnson, Kielland, and Lie we hear seldom. Of the Spaniards, Goldós, Pardo-Bazán, and Valdés, Valdés alone has recently published anything. In Italy, the movement that swept all before it is only apparent in the work of Matilde Serao and Fogazzaro. In England, Mrs. Humphry Ward alone seems active for truth in fiction; since 'Jude,' Mr. Thomas Hardy has done nothing considerable, and Mr. George Moore nothing since 'Esther Waters.' In France, Zola confesses not merely his abated energy, but, in the sad explicitness of so many words, that he has 'fought a losing fight.' In Russia, Tolstoy indeed has just spoken, after a long silence in fiction, a word worthy his incomparable greatness in 'Resurrection.' In our own country, where every genuine talent, young as well as old, is characterized by the instinct if not the reason of reality, nothing of late has been heard but the din of arms, the horrid tumult of the swashbuckler swashing on his buckler.

"If we inquire in our own case, or the Anglo-Saxon case, what in the psychological, sociological, or meteorological conditions will account for this state of things, we are met by the ready, the too ready, the even officious suggestion, that the accumulation of riches has vulgarized and the explosion of wars has brutalized the popular mind and spoiled the taste. There may be something in that, and something more in the more subjective implication that our race, having more reason than ever to be ashamed of itself for its lust of gold and blood, is more than ever anxious to get away from itself, and welcomes the tarradiddles of the historical romancers as a relief from the facts of the odious present. It is a race which likes a good conscience so much that it prefers unconsciousness to a bad one; and there may be something in the notion thrown out and in the notion that our appetite for gross fable has been stimulated by the spread of athletics among us, and that there is an occult relation between the passion for golf, say, and the passion for historical romance. One must not press a conjecture of this sort too hard, and it is interesting rather than convincing to consider how much the prevalence of that sort of fiction has to do with the prevalence of the muscular ideals, especially among women, who especially with us are the repository of such intellectual refinement as we have attained, and whose tastes and manners have been coarsened by sharing the rude sports and boyish games of men. Apparently,

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women must follow men in their literary pastimes if they follow them in their other amusements: very few women probably enjoy athletics as much as they pretend, and very few women probably are fond of novels of adventure; but athletics have flourished more and more since women took to them, and the novels of adventure have superabounded since our reading class, or reading sex, has pretended to enjoy them."

Mr. Howells says that he admires historical fiction—real historical fiction—but the works of to-day have nothing to link them with the novels of Scott, of Manzoni, Hugo, Dumas, or even of Cooper. No reader, he says, could mistake the modern variety for the works of those authors of the earlier decades of the century:

"In one of the best of their books, built very, very carefully upon the model of Thackeray's historical fiction, and languaged with anxious scruple in the parlance of the eighteenth century as Thackeray reconstructed it, the autobiographying hero has an instant of delightful naturalness when he says he 'raised up in bed' and another when he reports a London lackey of George III.'s time as saying his master is 'some better.' We might have mistaken him for a Maryland gentleman of the colonial period, but these slight touches give him away for an up-to-date citizen of our imperial republic; and comfort us with the belief that the author, if he ever takes again to writing straight American, will not suffer from the inability to rid himself of Queen Anne English, which Trollope noted in Thackeray after his 'Henry Esmond.' Another of the new historical novelists makes a Franco-American backwoodsman of the Fenimore Cooper type employ phrases drawn from our actual slang; and yet another gives vivacity if not vitality to an English princess of the sixteenth century by having her speak and act like a little Hoosier hoyden. In a fourth the heroine thees and thous the father of her country without the warrant of Quaker breeding, and misbehaves herself upon most opportunities like a schoolgirl of our familiar *fin-de-siècle* sort. In the fifth we have Virginia life painted in talk so tall that it can never be measured except when by some happy accident one of the heroes forgets his lines, and tells a certain company of miscreants that he has 'run with them long enough.'"

Mr. Howells finds the new historial romances not only wanting in these essentials of good fiction, but as untrue "to the complexion of the past as to personality in any time, or rather as crudely tentative and partial":

"I find duels and battles set forth as the great and prevalent human events; I find pride and revenge worshiped as right and fine, but no suggestion of the shame and heartache which have followed the doers of violence in all times and countries since the stone age. There is such spilth of blood that you might almost expect to see it drip from the printed page, and nowhere the consciousness that it is better to suffer wrong than to take the life of the vilest miscreant. . . . . .

"The inventors of the hideous incidents with which the new romances teem have no turn for character if they had the time for it; and possibly they do not prefer bloodshed, but are simply too busy with butchery for anything else. They are mostly gentlemen of peaceful callings and the instincts of law-abiding citizens, with probably no love of homicide in them, who would rather stay away from a slugging-match than not, and would not greatly enjoy an electrocution. Any pleasure in their bloody business, if it could be realized, is still less imaginable of the young ladies who deal in its horrors. These can hardly have witnessed violence of any kind, and must sicken at the sight of blows with the fist, much more thrusts with a sword or shots with a pistol; and it may well be said that they mean no harm by their ideals of militant manhood. Very likely their ideals do not do all the harm which is their logic, but it is all the same their logic; just as the logic of the royalties and nobilities which abound in the new historical romances is that life can not be beautiful or great without them. Their testimony, false witness as it is, is against the American life of individual worth, without titles and ranks, and only the distinction of honorable achievement. . . . . .

"Characters? Are they characters, any of those figments which pass for such in the new historical romances? They are hardly so by any test of comparison with people we know in life or in the great fictions. They are very simple souls, whose main business is to impersonate a single propensity, and immediately or remotely to do the hero and the heroine good or harm; to show them off; to die by his hand, or to cherish a baffled ambition for hers. When they are historical figures, their deportment is such as would be imaginable of the historical figures of the Eden Musée if these were called upon to leave their statuesque repose and move and speak."

Upon the whole, Mr. Howells sees no eminent talent in these recent books except the "instinct for hitting the fancy of our enormous commonplace average." This ability, he admits is not in itself a despicable thing, if, as in the case of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" or Edward Bellamy's "Looking Backward" it is combined with ability to lead people to higher and truer ideals:

"But what is despicable, what is lamentable is to have hit the popular fancy and not have done anything to change it, but everything to fix it; to flatter it with false dreams of splendor in the past, when life was mainly as simple and sad-colored as it is now; to corrupt it to an ignominious discontent with patience and humility, and every-day duty, and peace. . . . . .

"A vulgar literature is because the vulgar taste for it was, and the vulgar taste for it will be, because the vulgar literature has been. Cause and effect are so intimately associated in such things that we can not part or distinguish one from the other; and my own failure to do so is confessed in turning from it to recognize the extraneous fact that the popularity of this sort of fiction seems already to be waning, however long its influence is obscurely to continue. There are clear signs that its immense favor is abating; there are sullen whispers in the Trade that the historical romance, as a 'seller,' has had its day; and a corresponding impatience in the simple-hearted candor of those unliterary critics who feel duped in having yielded to the temptation of reading a book because everybody else was reading it. These critics seem, if you hear them complain, not to be much comforted by the assurance of some literary critics that they were indulging a very wholesome appetite in gorging themselves at the bloody repast spread by the historical romancers; and I own that I sympathize with them in this. I do not see why the spectacle of every sort of brute adventure, even when it is not bloody, should be thought particularly wholesome. I suspect that the taste for it is not so very simple or natural in civilized and cultivated people, who might be much more simply and naturally attracted by a social situation, a moral problem, or a psychological question, and would revert to brute adventure only in their abnormal moods."

NOTES.

MR. JOHN SWINTON, who has read many manuscripts of aspiring pen-drivers in his time, enumerates the following characteristic faults of most incipient authors (in the New York *Times*):

1. A certain grievous crudity of thought. 2. A certain disregard for rationality and ratiocination. 3. A certain cocksureness. 4. A certain looseness in respect to matters of knowledge or of fact. 5. A certain lack of definiteness or precision in the use of words. 6. A certain stiltedness as regards imagination. 7. A certain slipshod manner. 8. A certain inability to command the splendid resources of the English language. 9. A certain disturbing hastiness. 10. A certain tiresome long-windedness.

APROPOS of the retirement of Mr. Norman Maccoll from the editorship of the London *Athenæum*, long the most staid and oracular of the English literary weeklies, the New York *Evening Post* recalls the amusing skit of Stevenson in "The Wrong Box." John, who represents the man in the street, to whom *The Athenæum* is always caviare, stumbles across a copy of this eminent sheet, and for want of other reading attacks it. "It was all full of the most awful swipes about poetry and the use of the globes," he confides to a friend afterward; "it was the kind of thing that nobody could read out of a lunatic asylum. The *Athæneum*, that was the name! Golly, what a paper!" "*Athenæum*, you mean," said Morris. "I don't care what you call it," said John, "so I don't require to take it in."

ONE of the most remarkable loan associations in the world is one founded by Mme. Jeanne Robin in the suburbs of Paris. Its object is to assist needy writers by small loans, of from five to twenty francs. The New York *Staats-Zeitung* gives some details of its workings. Neither security nor interest is required, it says, nor is any time of payment specified. In this paradise of the impecunious author, the borrower simply signs the following paper: "I pledge my honor that I will pay back the sum of — francs." It is said that there are very few who do not finally pay. Mme. Robin is herself the author of several novels and well acquainted with the hardships of the literary life. Her object is not to succor the aged and infirm, but to tide authors over the crises that occur in the career of active workers. The outstanding loans amount to more than 20,000 francs. Among the borrowers is an author who has published more than thirty novels.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

THE POWER OF MARRIAGE TO PROLONG LIFE.

THE beneficial influence of marriage on the physical welfare of man has already been noted in these columns. According to numerous statistical investigations, the mortality of the unmarried, at least of the male sex, is remarkably higher than that of the married. As proof of the validity of the claim that marriage prolongs life, Dr. Prinzing, writing in a recent issue of the *Allgemeines Statistisches Archiv*, cites the experience of insurance companies with the Roman Catholic and the evangelical clergy. It must not be assumed, he thinks, that either, from the day of birth, has greater vigor than the other; but the life of the Roman Catholic clergy is more free from care than that of their evangelical brethren, who are often blessed with a numerous progeny. Yet in response to inquiries, it appeared that among the evangelical clergy only eighty-five per cent. of the expected deaths had occurred, while among the Roman Catholic clergy one hundred and twelve per cent. had occurred. The great mortality of the Roman Catholic clergy Dr. Prinzing considers due chiefly to diseases of the organs of circulation, including cerebral paralysis. The development of these diseases is not, as Professor Karup shows in the *Jahrbuch für Nationalekonomie*, promoted especially by any peculiarities of professional activity; it is rather only a consequence of certain habits of life for which the profession, with its obligation of celibacy, must be held primarily responsible. We quote the following comments on Dr. Prinzing's conclusions, from the *Boersen Zeitung:*

"The most important reason for the claim that marital life in itself diminishes mortality is the fact, in accordance with Prinzing's exposition, that there is greater mortality among the husbands and wives who have lost their consorts than among those who are still married, and that women who are single do not die off much more quickly than married women. The greater mortality among widowers is probably traceable to the deprivation of the care to which they have been accustomed. With certain causes of death, the beneficial influence of family life can be proved with statistical completeness; for instance, in cases of suicide, disastrous accident, and death in consequence of mental disease.

"It has been ascertained that suicide is more frequent among the unmarried than among the married. Durkheim's book on suicide states that among men suicide is most frequent among the unmarried, less so among widowers, and very much less so among the married; that among women suicide most seldom occurs among those who are married, and more frequently among widows of almost all ages than among the unmarried; that misfortune is much more prevalent among the unmarried and those bereft of husbands and wives, and that mental disease appears much oftener in the unmarried, tho it must be admitted that very many of the mentally ill are already debarred from marriage by the symptoms that herald their disease.

"The opinion is expressed that the smaller mortality among the married may not be explained chiefly by reasons of health. Such is the opinion, for instance, of the diplomat and savant, Georg von Mayr, who claims that the considerable difference between the average length of life of unmarried and that of married men is influenced also by the circumstance that the group of the married represents, in regard to health, a company much superior to that represented by the group of the unmarried, in which physical and mental cripples of all kinds remain in proportionately greater number. Kollmann also, in an excellent statistical review of the question, attaches less importance to the regularity of the daily life of the married than to the fact that the more vigorous natures are the ones who marry and that the weaker remain single more frequently. This view, however, is met by Prinzing, who is a physician himself, with the observation that the higher mortality among those bereft of husbands and wives can not be explained in this way. It is his opinion that family life must be credited with a much greater influence on health than it is commonly supposed to exercise, and that the power of marriage to prolong life is unequivocal. . . . . .

"Statistical results thus seem to prove that the greater mortality of the unmarried is caused not only by the infrequency with which weaker natures marry, but, in a great measure, by certain dangers and circumstances of life to which the unmarried are more exposed. For the married person life has a much greater value; the supporter of a family can not be replaced at death, and therefore does not approach danger so impulsively. The unmarried, moreover, are restricted to hotel life and are thus tempted to addict themselves to the abuse of alcohol, which not only undermines their health but provokes spiritual injury of woful extent."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FINDING WATER WITH A "DIVINING ROD."

THE methods and results of the so-called "diviners," or "dowsers," as they are named in England, who profess to find underground water-courses with hazel twigs, are carefully investigated by Prof. W. F. Barrett, who, in a treatise published in the "Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research," makes the best of the case for the existence of some such power, whether we call it occult, abnormal, or simply surprising.

The claims of those who assert that they possess the power of detecting underground water, lodes of metal, and even criminals with a "divining rod" are at least two hundred years old. In England, it is said, there are at least a score of "dowsers," whose business it is to find water for those who wish to know where to sink a well. Among their customers, so we are told by the Manchester *Guardian* (November 17), are people like the Prime Minister, Lord Lansdowne, and Sir Edward Fry, "whose opinions the world will not so easily brush aside, especially when they back them with money." Lately a local government board reversed the decision of a board of auditors, who had refused to sanction the payment of money to one of these men, and so far placed the business of the diviner on a legal footing. This being the case, it is interesting to see what has been the result of a serious investigation of the matter. Says *The Guardian:*

"Mr. Barrett has taken the trouble to analyze the achievements of some of the leading diviners—or dowsers, as he prefers to call them in order to avoid the misleading connotation of the former word—and he comes to the conclusion that, on the average, they succeed in finding water in eighty-five to ninety per cent. of their trials. It is clear that some of them who combine the profession of dowser with that of well-sinker have a strong faith in their own powers, for they are willing to exercise their powers on the principle of 'no water no wages.' They will undertake to sink a well, on the indication of their hazel-twigs, on the condition that they are not paid if they do not find a satisfactory supply of water. Nothing could be more fair. On the other hand, some of the professional dowsers are undoubtedly only one degree removed from impostors. Still Mr. Barrett's body of evidence, joined to what he has already published, will incline the most skeptical reader to admit that 'there is something in it.'

"It is quite another matter to say what that something is. What appears is that a certain small number of men have some unexplained faculty of finding underground water with a frequency of success that can hardly be disposed of as accidental. Mr. Barrett's conscientious inquiry leaves the nature of this faculty as obscure as ever. One thing seems to be clear, that the contortions of the rod itself, which twists in a most uncanny way when its holder walks over a subterranean stream or water-bearing stratum, have nothing to do with the case. They are only the symptoms of the dowser's own perception. Some diviners prefer to do without the rod altogether, and in the hands of the majority, who still pin their faith to it, it is merely what the psychical researchers call an 'autoscope,' a handy means of betraying the excitement of the man who holds it. Many attempts have been made to find the cause that sets the rod in motion, or, as Mr. Barrett lucidly puts it, 'originates the motor automatism

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of the dowser.' It may be only a shrewd judgment of the lie of the ground, formed either by the man himself or by that convenient partner in the firm his subliminal consciousness. A parallel may be found in the well-authenticated power of the Australian black-fellow and other savages to 'smell water' at an incredible distance. It must be remembered that the dowser most commonly finds water in places where this explanation is sufficient, and it is possible that luck may account for his really startling successes, whose proportion to the whole number of failures it does not seem to have occurred to Mr. Barrett to work out. No other physical cause for the success of the dowser has yet been suggested with any likelihood, and we have to fall back on hypotheses of clairvoyance and such things, which are too near the 'border-line' to be handled with any assurance. Mr. Barrett himself leans to some transcendental discernment possessed by the dowser's subconscious self, which would be a highly satisfactory explanation if we had any idea what it really meant."

AN UNDULATORY THEORY OF ODOR.

THE efforts of physicists to bring the phenomena of smell into line with those of the other senses have so far met with little success. The fact that the eye and ear perceive objects at great distances led to a close investigation of the mechanism of the propagation of light and sound, and thus was laid the foundation of the undulatory theories that form so large a part of the teachings of modern science. But the mechanism by which we smell at a distance is still in doubt, altho it has usually been held that this sense is essentially one with that of taste and that both require actual contact between the sense-organ and the object smelled or tasted. The apparent propagation of smell to a distance would then be due to the fact that all odorous substances are more or less volatile, and that their material particles, in the form of dust or vapor, are wafted to the nostrils through the air. But there are many who are not satisfied with this explanation, and from time to time efforts are made to bring the phenomena of odor into line with those of radiant forms of energy. The latest of these, made by Messrs. Vaschide and Van Melle, is described in the *Revue Scientifique* (Paris, October 27). The writer of the notice calls our attention to the fact that we have not advanced beyond the ancient Greek philosophers in our conception of an odor. He says:

"The classic view of odor is that held by the ancient Greek physicists. It asserts that the essential condition is that the particles of odoriferous substances shall become detached, and, floating about in the air, shall come into close contact with the mucous membrane of the nose. Physics has long since replaced theories of emission by those of undulation in the domains of hearing and vision; but with smell we are still of the opinion of Democritus.

"The hypothesis of emission is based experimentally only on inductions whose legitimacy is far from being established . . . and the nature of odors has never been definitely defined. The arguments that seem to be in favor of this hypothesis can be summed up under two heads as follows:

"1. Odors are carried by the air, and to smell it is necessary to introduce into the nostril the air that bears the odoriferous affluvium; that is, the air must be snuffed up. 2. If we shut up odoriferous substances in a hermetically sealed box, their odors can no longer be perceived.

"To these arguments the authors reply as follows:

"1. Sound is also carried by the wind, and so is heat under certain conditions; but we do not consider them as due to detached particles, but rather as forms of energy that may be displaced under certain circumstances.

"2. If we shut up a source of light in an opaque box, the sensation is intercepted. Substances transparent to light may be less so to heat and still less so for Roentgen rays. It would then be natural to suppose that substances opaque to light would also intercept the hypothetical radiations of odor.

"The authors' hypothesis may be formulated thus: Odor does not proceed from direct contact between detached particles of the odoriferous body and the nerve-terminals, but indirectly, by means of rays of short wave-length analogous but not similar to those now regarded as the cause of light, radiant heat, the Roentgen phenomena, etc. The chief presumptions in favor of this view are as follows:

"1. The history of science shows us that we have gradually come to recognize the fact that our sensations come, not directly from bodies, but rather from the surrounding medium.

"2. The olfactory nerves have the same cerebral origin as the optic nerves, and this special condition distinguishes them from the other sensory nerves. . . . It is very probable that their functions are also similar.

"3. Odoriferous chemical substances, belonging to the same group, produce absorption bands in the spectrum, that approach nearer to the end of the spectrum as their specific gravity increases. At the same time, the odors of the substances occupy the same order of succession as the absorption bands.

"4. Odors have the power of absorbing radiant heat, which shows that there is a close relation between them.

"5. Odorous substances lose neither weight nor volume, or in any case such loss is insignificant, unless the substance is volatile.

"6. There are many bodies whose particles detach themselves, or which, in other words, vaporize easily, and yet have no odor; and there are other bodies that have powerful odors and yet, so far as we can see, send out no detached particles. . . . . .

"7. There are substances each of which, taken separately, gives out a considerable odor, but which, mixed together, without forming any new chemical compound, neutralize each other's odors completely; for instance, coffee and iodoform. This phenomenon presents an analogy with what takes place when a cold and a hot substance are mixed; they neutralize, in a certain sense, the sensations due to each when they act separately.

"8. The colors of substances have been studied with the view of investigating the so-called odoriferous effluvia, and it has been found that the absorption of the odors varies with the colors.

"9. Fatigue may take place for a single odor, while the sense of smell remains intact for all other odors; just as the eye may be fatigued for the red rays, while it is still very sensitive to the other rays.

"10. The air is not the sole carrier of odors, for investigations made by Messrs. Vaschide and Toulouse show that one may plainly perceive an odor when the nostrils are filled with an odoriferous solution. . . . . .

"Such is the new hypothesis, which seems to be in line with all the data of modern science. Waether, at the beginning of the century (1808), vaguely agitated the possibility of a dynamic theory of odors and inclined to believe that they were propagated in a manner similar to light, heat, sound, etc., but he was still ignorant of the nature of these phenomena.

"This hypothesis opens up new possibilities, and the existence of an olfactive wave brings odor into the universal system of undulation and vibration, which is an essential form of life."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE NUMBERS OF THE AMERICAN BISON.

OUR bison, or "buffaloes," are commonly spoken of as having been exterminated; yet a considerable number of them are still alive, and those that are in captivity are slightly increasing in number. About eleven years ago, W. T. Hornaday estimated the number of survivors at 1,091, of which 256 were in captivity and 835 running wild in British North America, the Yellowstone Park, and a few other localities. Recently Mark Sullivan has attempted to make a fresh census of the species, the results of which are thus stated in *Nature*:

"As the result of his inquiries, Mr. Sullivan estimates the number of bison living at the present time as approximately 1,024, of which 684 are in captivity and 340 running wild or half wild. His investigations appear to have been conducted with great care; and in the case of the greater number of domesticated herds—whether American or foreign—the numbers are practically accurate. The number of those running wild in the neighborhood of the Great Slave Lake has, however, been arrived at by a process of 'averaging'; and the extent of the herd in the Yellowstone is to a large degree a matter of guesswork. Another element of uncertainty is introduced by the alleged exist-

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ence of wild bison in the mountains of Colorado; for while a government official vouches for their occurrence in considerable numbers, old bison-hunters are very skeptical whether there are any at all. Admitting that the report of their existence in this district may be true, the author allows 21 as their conjectural number. He adds that reports of wild bison in other parts of the United States are pure fabrications. . . . Whatever may be the real number of wild bison, it is evident from the figures given above that they have decreased very seriously since 1887, while those living in captivity exhibit, on the other hand, a very marked increase in numbers. Altho the bison in the Yellowstone are protected so far as possible from poachers, many of them fall victims to beasts of prey, and their rate of increase seems to be slow. Those in British territory are much harried by Indians, and are consequently decreasing daily in number. It is accordingly to the domesticated and semi-domesticated herds that we have to look for the maintenance of the species. And with the example of the Lithuanian herd of European bison before us, coupled with the larger size of several of the American herds, and the facilities that exist for the introduction of fresh blood to counteract the ill-effects of inbreeding, there would seem, at first sight, to be a great probability that the American bison may survive for many generations."

There is, however, a tendency among animals in captivity for the proportion of males among the offspring to increase at the expense of the females. "To such an extent does this abnormality prevail in some of the herds," says *Nature*, "that in Bronx Park, New York, every calf is put down as a bull as a matter of course. If this were universal, the fate of the species would evidently be soon sealed; but fortunately it is not so, and as the Allard herd wanders almost at will under what are practically the natural conditions of the species, there still appears (in spite of certain disabilities) hope that the final extinction of *Bos bison* is a remote contingency."

NEWS FROM PEARY.

A MAIL from the polar circle is an unusual thing, but one has recently arrived. The carrier was a Dr. Kahn, and he brought letters from Lieutenant Peary, of which the latest bears the date of March 31 last. Of the news contained in these letters the Providence *Journal* says:

"The task which he [Peary] set before himself when he went north in 1898 is not being as speedily accomplished as he hoped it might be. His first winter and spring, 1898-99, were not crowned with achievement, but were attended by misfortune. This fact put back his work a full year. Moreover, his letters show that in all likelihood he could not have attempted his journey to the Pole last spring and summer. If he did not make the venture, a second year has been lost.

"Attention should now be redirected to the Peary expedition with renewed and increased interest. The Nansen mode of reaching the Pole has failed. It probably will not be tried again. The Abruzzi expedition achieved only the name of success. Men in it gained 'the farthest north,' but reached only the horizon of Nansen's farthest point. The distance to the Pole from the Abruzzi limit is so great that reindeer, dogs, or men on foot will not be able to span it. Thus it seems that the old method of travel by keeping to the leeward of land-masses must be resumed by explorers, and this is the principle of Peary's venture. His experiences so far during his latest visit to the north, taken in connection with the results of the Nansen and Abruzzi expeditions, go to show that great difficulties still confront the man who would reach the Pole, and that even a very careful explorer of modern times, tho equipped for his work with all the aids of science, can not hope easily to unlock the mystery of the frozen north. Part of Lieutenant Peary's troubles appear to have been of his own creation, but his greatest trial has been owing to natural causes. . . . . .

"Some critics may think that Peary went north too late in 1898, and that the *Windward* was also tardy in getting off this year. But tho most ships which have passed the eightieth parallel west of Greenland have gone up early, some of these have been successful in continuing their way still farther north as late as September. It is probable, therefore, that Lieutenant Peary did as well as he could. But as the *Windward* did not reach a landing-place within three hundred and fifty miles of Sherard Osborne Fiord or two hundred and twenty miles of Fort Conger, the expedition was put back discouragingly. Lieutenant Peary expected to reach the Pole in four or five years at the most, but he had spent one year and a part of his second when last heard from in trying to reach a point which he thought he could attain in 1898."

DANGERS FROM DUSTY TRADES.

A RECENT investigating committee of the British Parliament, appointed to inquire into the dangers of certain trades and operations, finds that there is peculiar harm in those that involve working in an atmosphere laden with dust, sometimes because this dust is poisonous, but often simply because it is irritating to the air-passages. From a summary of the results, published in *The Hospital* (November 17), we quote the following:

"The connection between dust and disease has often been noted; and even the ordinary dust of the street and the household carries insidious dangers; but these are not so sure in their action as those caused by the dust raised in various manufacturing processes. Take, for example, the work of paper-staining. In old days there was a great fancy for what were called 'flock' papers; they were regarded as handsome and comfortable-looking; and after a long period of neglect flock papers are beginning again to come into fashion. Fashion is thoughtless rather than cruel in her fads, and therefore it may be well to point out how the process of 'flocking' is carried out. The paper having had the pattern outlined on it, the parts to be flocked are covered with a thin coat of size, and are then dusted over with the flock—a sort of felt dust—which is shaken out of something like a pepper-caster. This flock adheres to the parts that are coated with size, and when it has dried upon them the remainder is shaken off. All through the process dust is in evidence, penetrating to the worker's nostrils and lungs, irritating the membranes, and causing disease.

"Very similar to this is the process of bronzing, as applied to paper or leather. Here also the powder is dusted on to the prepared surface, generally by means of a pad, and the worker is exposed to the dangers of inhaling it."

The employment of "flake white" or "Chinese white" is also injurious, when these substances contain lead, and when they are dusted on in powder. Some forms of flake white are harmless; while others are more than half white lead, the remainder being French chalk. Says the writer:

"One firm which had used this compound, finding that some cases of illness resulted among those employed, gave it up, and employed instead a powder called 'metallochrome,' which was composed of sulfate of barium, and was quite free from lead. This change did away with one important danger for the workers in this industry—which is, fortunately, a very small one—that of lead-poisoning. . . . . .

"When the dust is more than half white lead, it is peculiarly dangerous to health; but even without absolutely poisonous stuff being included in it the mechanical irritation to throat, lungs, and nostrils is sufficient to condemn it. It is a trade at which no one seems to work long, tho, as it is light work, there is no difficulty in filling up such vacancies as arise. . . . . .

"Among other dusty and dangerous industries may be noted the manufacture of basic slag. Basic slag is the refuse that is left in the converter after making steel by the 'Gilchrist Thomas' process, and is valuable as a manure. In order to be used for this purpose, however, the slag, which comes out of the converter in large pieces, must be ground into a powder so fine that from eighty to eighty-five per cent. of it would pass through a mesh of 10,000 to the square inch. Sometimes, if very dry, the slag is moistened before being ground; but in spite of this, much dust arises in the process of repeated grinding, which is necessary to reduce the slag to powder. Time after time is the process repeated, the fine dust being carried away by a fan to hoppers, from which it falls into bags without being touched by hand, while the heavier dust is carried into a chamber which must be cleared every six weeks. The men who perform this

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duty wear respirators. The dust given out by the slag in process of grinding is not in itself of a poisonous nature, but it causes, by its mechanical irritation, huskiness, asthma, and even pneumonia. It is chiefly in the packing of the dust that the workmen encounter danger, tho this may be kept in check by the rejection of old or unsuitable bags. In one factory, only new jute bags are employed. A peculiar case occurred some time ago at Ellesmere Port. A laborer, not employed in any mill, but only in unloading bags of basic-slag dust, died of pneumonia, and at the inquest it came out that the disease had arisen from inhaling the dust. It is evident that respirators or veils should be used by those employed at every stage of the process.

"Silicate cotton is another slag product, in the making of which much dust arises. The process by which it is made is simple and ingenious. A fine stream of molten slag is met on issuing from the furnace by a strong blast of steam. By this, small globular particles of slag are formed, and are driven with great velocity into a chamber; from each of these particles, by reason of their viscous nature and the velocity with which they are forced through the air, is drawn a long thin filament. These filaments combine into a threadlike, spongy material, the silicate of cotton—or, as it is generally called, slag wool. This material is absolutely non-inflammable, and is a non-conductor of both heat and of sound. It is thus of great use in packing the pipes from steam-boilers, engines, etc., for laying between floors to deaden the sound, to render walls and floors fireproof, and very largely for cold-storage purposes. In appearance it resembles cotton-wool, but has no elasticity. It is very light. The dangers that accompany the manufacture are, again, the risk of inhaling particles of the slag wool while packing it. The fine particles of wool cause great irritation to skin and nose to a stranger, tho it is said that the workers themselves get quite accustomed to it. It has been shown, however, that the irritation has caused several persons to give up the work. The employment of crape or muslin veils has been found to afford great relief from these symptoms."

An Automobile Sheepfold.—"Of recent years nearly every town is provided with an electric generating plant, and frequently the wires are strung along country roads from town to town. This fact," says *Electricity*, "has led a man named McNair to attempt the use of electricity on the farm. He has devised a curious pen some fifteen feet square, built of wire and mounted on broad, flat wheels. This pen is designed to run in any pasture, even tho it be hilly. Wires connect it with a small motor stationed at one side of the pasture, this in turn being connected with the electric wires from which power is derived. A turn of the button and the pen slowly creeps across the field. That is the essence of the invention, and simple enough it seems. A machine of this type is being experimented with at the Agricultural Experiment Station of Michigan, at Lansing. Two lambs and part of the time an old ewe have been pastured in the pen during the summer. The field is planted with lucerne, growing thick and heavy. The pen is so arranged that it crawls the full length of the pasture in one month, traveling about two feet an hour; at the end of this time it is switched around and travels back again. As it moves, the sheep eat every bit of the fodder, eagerly cropping next the forward side of the pen as it runs over new ground. A bit of canvas duck is hung over the corner of the pen so that the sheep may be well sheltered, and, curious as it may seem, they have become so accustomed to the moving of the pen that when they lie down to sleep they snuggle up close to the forward end of the pen so that they may lie as long as possible without being disturbed by the rear end of the pen as it creeps toward them. When the pen has passed, of course, the lucerne that has been cropped by the sheep immediately grows up again, and by the time the pen has made its monthly circuit the pasture is again in good condition. The advantages of this electrical pen lie in the fact that the sheep are kept from running over, half eating and tramping down a large amount of pasture, and it keeps the sheep quiet, so that they lay on flesh rapidly."

Plant-Breeding.—Even the scientific botanist may well be surprised, says *Science*, by what has been accomplished in the work of plant-breeding. "That man can bring about definite results by the careful breeding of animals is more or less well known, but that plants may be bred with as definite an object in view, and as successfully, is not yet a matter of common knowledge. It is only during the latter half of the present century that much progress has been made in plant-breeding proper, the earlier efforts at the improvement of plants having been through the selection of seeds of the most desirable plants for further cultivation. Downing, Hovey, Wilder, and some other farseeing horticulturists of the earlier days continually urged the breeding ('crossing') of the better varieties of fruits in order to combine the qualities and characteristics of the kinds so treated. This advice eventually bore fruit, and to-day the florist plans to bring about a definite result by securing offspring from the union of two plants, whose form, color, odor, or other qualities he may wish to intensify or modify. Among fruits the grape, raspberry, and strawberry have been much modified by careful breeding. The tomato illustrates what may be done by the skilful breeder, as practically all the improvement which it has undergone is due to carefully planned hybridization, followed by as careful selection. In like manner the cereals, maize and wheat, have been improved in recent years by the crossing of selected varieties."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"AN electric time alarm which has been patented lately has at least one novelty to recommend it," says *Electricity*. "It is directly connected to the bed, and it is impossible for the sleeper to stop it until he gets up to stay. Underneath the bed is a series of contact-points, the weight of the person forcing them together. A clock is used in connection with the apparatus, and as soon as the hour of rising is indicated the remaining opening or break in the wire is closed, the current passing through the contact-points underneath the bed and causing the bell to ring continuously until the sleeper, by leaving the bed, breaks the circuit. Should he lie down again the circuit is again completed and the bell rings until the second rising."

SPEAKING of the recent voting for names to be registered in the New York University's "Hall of Fame," *The Electrical World and Engineer* says: "We are glad to see that S. F. B. Morse is included. The soldier, statesman, and philanthropist often get credit for the work that the inventor and the engineer have done. It is one thing to formulate the Ten Commandments, it is quite another thing to devise the means and methods which render it possible for the bulk of mankind to live within the borders of the law. That is chiefly the work of the engineer and inventor, not of the lawgiver. It heartens us to see Fulton, Whitney, and Howe also among the eligible worthies. It pains us to see the omission of Joseph Henry. A novelist or judge could be spared to make room for him.

"A SERIES of interesting experiments on the explosive effects of the modern infantry bullet have been carried out in Germany by C. Cranz and K. R. Koch," says *Nature*, London. "They used a new Mauser rifle of 6 milimeter [¼ inch] bore, having a muzzle velocity 100 meters [328 feet] greater than 'Model 88.' To imitate the effect upon large blood-vessels, while at the same time obtaining simple physical conditions, the experimenters constructed short hollow tin cylinders filled with water, and closed at one end with a sheet of rubber and at the other with a sheet of parchment paper. Electrodes were mounted before or behind the cylinders, or inside them, and the discharge spark produced by the bullet was utilized to obtain a photograph of its silhouette at various points of its path. Among the important facts thus elicited it appears that the body struck is not displaced by the entry of the bullet. On leaving the body, the bullet carries away with it a small part of the hind surface, having a small round perforation through which the bullet passed. The 'explosion' does not take place until the bullet has left the body. After discussing the evaporation, hydraulic-pressure, rotation, and sound-wave theories of the explosion, and discarding them all, the authors conclude that the apparent explosion is due to the transfer of kinetic energy to the portions hit at later stages, which are thus torn away from those first encountered."

THE "Frictional Effect of Railway Trains upon the Air" has just been discussed in a paper read before the St. Louis Academy of Science by Prof. Francis E. Nipher, of Washington University, in that city. "It is believed that this discussion and the experiments upon which it is based constitute a decided addition to the literature of aerodynamics," says the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, November 18. "The origin of the discussion is interesting, as it shows how scientific men are often led into extensive investigations by mere suggestions which ordinarily arouse no interest and attract no attention. A little boy chanced to be standing near a train of cars which was moving with considerable velocity, when he fell over and rolled under the wheels and was killed. In the suit for damages which followed, the question was raised as to the possibility of the boy's being thrown down by the wind of the train, without being struck by the body of a car. This brought up the whole question of the effect of a moving train upon the air which surrounds it, and when Professor Nipher was applied to for some definite information upon the subject he found it necessary to institute a series of experiments. These experiments developed to such an extent that finally he was given a special train, a special car, and any amount of special apparatus connected with the same, and an opportunity to run his train with a special crew over various sections of a road in Illinois, in order to get data for answering the simple questions originally asked. This elaborate paper is the result. Every one has experienced the wind of an express train at full speed, but the law of variation in strength of the wind above and beside the train has never before been discovered."

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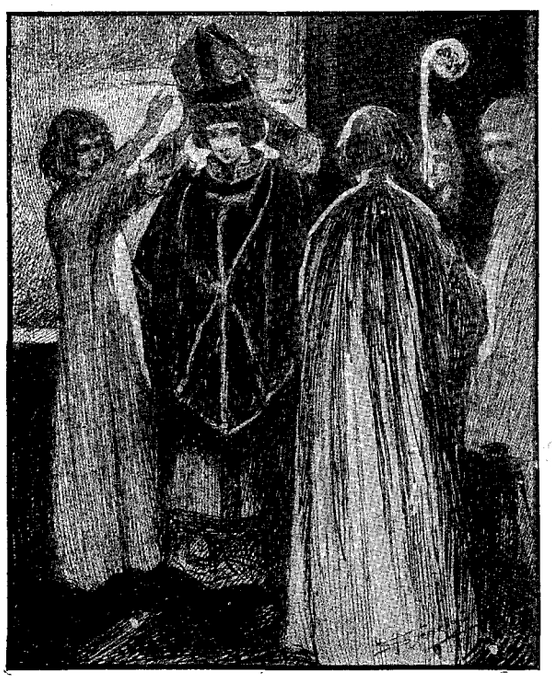
THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE BOY BISHOP: A CHRISTMAS CUSTOM IN MEDIEVAL ENGLAND.

SIR WALTER BESANT, who is one of the best of living authorities on old London, gives an interesting account of the quaint Christmas customs that prevailed there and in other parts of Merrie England before the time of Elizabeth. Besides the masques, the revels, and the miracle-play of the Nativity, the most curious custom was the entertainment of the "Boy Bishop." Writing in *Cassell's Magazine* (December), he thus describes this ceremony as it was observed particularly at St. Paul's Cathedral:

"On the day of St. Nicholas—December 6—the children of the choir elected one of themselves to hold office as bishop until Childermas, or the day of Holy Innocents, on December 28. St. Nicholas, it may be remembered, was the admirable saint who



"MY LORD BOY BISHOP PUT OFF HIS MITER."
Courtesy of *Cassell's Magazine.*

restored to life the three children who had been murdered and cut to pieces and put in pickle by the inn-keeper. . . . Assistants or clerks to the bishop were also chosen by the choristers. It must be borne in mind that, so far as the church was concerned, everything was done in due order and without any burlesque. Only things must be topsy-turvy. The 'Boy Bishop' was attired in pontificals duly preserved among the vestments of the church: he wore a white miter adorned with flowers; he carried a pastoral staff, and he was dressed in such robes as belong to a bishop. The bishop's attendants wore copes and stoles like the canons and prebendaries. For three weeks the 'Boy Cishop' and his following rode about the streets of London in state; the dean found a horse for the bishop; the canons residentiary found horses for the clerks; they called at the houses of the merchants; they sang their carols; they were caressed and welcomed by the girls and the mothers; the bishop gave his benediction paternally; they received gifts and they made good cheer.

"On the evening of St. John's Day—December 27—after vespers, the 'Boy Bishop' and his clerks, all duly arrayed, left their places in the choir, and, with lighted tapers in their hands—would that I were an artist to paint this scene—they walked in procession singing the words beginning 'Centum Quadraginta,' from Rev. xiv. 1, down the darkening church to the altar of the Blessed Trinity, which the 'Boy Bishop' censed. Then they sang an anthem: this done, the 'Boy Bishop' recited certain prayers commemorative of the Holy Innocents. Going back to the choir, the boys took the stalls of the canons, while these reverend fathers served in their place, humbly carrying candles, thurible, and book. The service finished, the 'Boy Bishop' rose in his throne, and, holding the pastoral staff in his left hand, pronounced the benediction, all kneeling. After this he made the sign of the cross over the kneeling crowd, saying:

Crucis signo vos consigno; vestra sit tuitio.
Quos nos emit, et redemit, suæ Carnis pretio.

[With the sign of the cross I seal you; may it be your defense. It bought us and redeemed us, by the price of His flesh.]

"The next day, that of the Holy Innocents, was the last day and the grand day of this brief elevation. On that day the 'Boy Bishop' preached his sermon in the cathedral. This sermon, a perfectly serious discourse, was written for him. Dean Colet ordered that the boys of St. Paul's should attend the sermon; he himself wrote at least one of the sermons; Erasmus wrote one; two others have been preserved and published. After the sermon followed a feast provided by the dean, or one of the canons, for his two chaplains, his taper-bearers, his clerks, and two of the church servants. Then my Lord Boy-Bishop, with tears, put off his miter and his *pontificalia*, and went back to the cathedral school and to the choir—and oh! how flat, for many and many a day, did life become in thinking of the glories and the splendors of that brief translation!

"Once the boy died while he was still a bishop; they buried him with episcopal ceremonies, keeping up the topsy-turvydom even to the funeral service; and they erected a marble monument to his memory which you may see in Salisbury cathedral. In the year 1542, Henry VIII. abolished the custom. Queen Mary revived it—and Queen Elizabeth finally abolished it. How far it was observed in the parish churches, I know not."

THE RELIGIOUS CONGRESSES IN PARIS.

NEVER has the cosmopolitanism of modern research been more clearly demonstrated than it was in Paris during the Exposition. The papers of Paris have calculated that during the Exposition no less than one hundred and twenty-seven international congresses were held in the interests of every possible, "and some impossible," sciences. The *Chronik* (Leipsic, No. 46) discusses in detail the rôle which religion has played in these conventions and reaches some interesting conclusions. Only a small percentage of the conventions, it says, were distinctively religious; yet the subject of religion was throughout in the forefront. It quotes from the address of the president of the Congress of Chemists, Dr. Berthelot, as follows: "Scientific research knows no national limitations. It owes its progress as much to the smaller nations as to the larger. It demonstrates that the true law of human interests is that of love and mutual cooperation. Modern science proclaims as its highest goal and the ideal of its researches universal solidarity and fraternal affection.

On this *La Figaro* (Paris) commented as follows as quoted in the *Chronik*:

"These are eloquent words, full of deep truth, and all the more beautiful as they were spoken nineteen hundred years ago by the plain Carpenter's Son on the Sea of Galilee to a few poor fishermen, who certainly did not know the secrets of modern chemistry. O ye learned men and wonderful investigators! Ye have conquered the world. Perhaps ye will yet discover the secrets of physical life and its origin. And when ye would then apply to yourself and to the world the ethical and moral results of your efforts, what will ye find at the bottom of your retorts? A word of Jesus!"

During the sessions of the Congress of Free Thinkers, says the *Chronik*, in which also the ex-Abbé Victor Charbonnel took a prominent part, the decision was reached that it is not sufficient to combat religion, but that it should be the object of free thought to eradicate entirely the idea of God, because as long as man believes in the existence of a Supreme Being he will be

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tempted to pray to this Being, and religion will continue to exist in man's brain and prevent his full freedom of thought.

The International Peace Congress, according to the *Chronik*, passsed a resolution against missions, and expressed its conviction that the deplorable situation of affairs in China is to be attributed to the activity of the missionaries of all the churches, who, instead of confining their work to the sphere of moral suasion, have resorted to diplomatic and military intervention. The *Temps*, in a discussion of the transactions of this Congress, declares that the chief offenders have been Protestant missionaries, who, it charges, do not accommodate themselves to the life of the Chinese as do the Catholics.

In the Congress of Psychology, we are told, the most notable speaker was the East Indian savant, Chatterjii, professor of Hindu philosophy in the University of Benares, who expounded the Indian experimental psychology known as "Yoga." His description was in substance as follows:

The Yogi, men and women, are no fakirs. Everybody can become a Yogi; but it requires great courage and persistence. The candidate must abstain from food as much as possible. He must not eat vegetables nor use any fermented drinks, must resist all passions, devote himself to meditation, avoid selfishness, and cultivate love for his fellow men. Through the practise of such ascetical exercises he becomes able to penetrate into mysteries which are under other circumstances denied to mortal man, and the more perfect he becomes in his asceticism the greater is his mastery of the highest of all sciences, the knowledge of the absolute. The Yogi can detect the thoughts of those to whom they speak. They see those who are dead—or rather seem to be dead, because in reality nobody dies—they are not bound by the limitations of time and space. Finally, after passing through a number of intermediate stages, they attain the Nirvana, the highest goal of the Yogi, a blessedness which human tongue can not describe.

Kindred to these views were many of the sentiments expressed during the Congress of Theosophy, attended by more than two hundred persons, with Colonel Olcott and Mrs. Annie Besant among the speakers. In connection with this congress, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the Theosophical Society was celebrated. Mrs. Besant spoke on "Faith and Life," saying, among other things:

In our day, mystical doctrines are being everywhere revived in the hearts of men. Everywhere the ideas of spiritualism are gaining ground among the nations. What does this signify at the end of the nineteenth century? It means that mankind is determined to advance still further along this line of research and to develop to a higher stage of existence. We constitute a part of the fifth sub-class of mankind, in which the principle of individuality and intelligence is being developed. But this period is approaching its end, and the sixth period in the development of mankind is being inaugurated, namely, that of love and wisdom. This period will no longer be characterized by separation, but by union, not by individuality, but by solidarity. It is the mission of theosophy, in this period so saturated with the struggle for existence, to sow the seed of brotherly love. As a precursor of humanity, theosophy is doing pioneer service for the future. From a religious point of view, theosophy knows of no heretics: heresy is really only a different way of seeing the truth. All religions are true, but theosophical science aims to discover back behind the great existing religions the secret doctrine that is common to all these systems. Theosophy offers to initiate its adherents into these mysteries by the assumption of the "Yoga," or vow.

How prominent a place these ideas have secured in the modern religious world was apparent from the deliberations of the Congress of the History of Religion, the attendance at which, from all parts of the Orient and Occident, was so large that the congress had to be divided into twelve sections. Among the leading speakers were two Buddhist professors of theology from Japan. During this congress the latest religious statistics of the world were given. According to these, Christianity in the last thirteen years has increased from 479,000,000 to 555,000,000, the Jews from 7,000,000 to 8,000,000; the Mohammedans number 200,000,000 and are rapidly spreading.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE RELIGION OF THE WORLD'S SOVEREIGNS.

A RECENT writer calls attention to the fact that all the great religions (except Judaism) are represented in the creeds to which the world's sovereigns to-day give allegiance In general, the religion of the country is also the religion of the ruler; but this is not always the case. The royal family of Saxony, for instance, is Roman Catholic, altho the people are almost wholly Protestant. From one point of view, also, Queen Victoria is an exception to the rule. Altho when in England she belongs to the established Episcopal Church and when in Scotland she accommodatingly conforms to the established Presbyterian Church and receives its communion, yet she is not a Roman Catholic as Queen of Ireland nor a Brahmanist as Empress of India.

From an article in the Philadelphia *North American* we abridge a statement of the religious beliefs and traits of the chief ruling sovereigns of the present day.

Most prominent among Protestant sovereigns is the Queen of England, who is a devout Christian, tho she has always been distinctly "Broad-Church" in her leanings, and an admirer of such Broad-Church divines as Frederick Maurice, Robertson, and Dean Stanley. She is a particular lover of hymns. Her favorite ones are "Nearer, My God, to Thee," "Jesus, Lover of my Soul," "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds," and, of late years, especially, "Wake, for the Night is Flying." Wilhelm of Germany is, as all the world knows, a militant member of the Lutheran Church and a vehement and striking preacher himself. Queen Wilhelmina of Holland is a member of the Dutch Reformed (Presbyterian) Church, and studied the Bible under a special professor, whom she is said to have frequently "posed" by her searching questions. It is not officially stated whether she shares the higher critical views of the great mass of Dutch Protestant scholars, of whom Professor Wellhausen is the most eminent living authority upon the Old Testament. King Christian of Denmark is a Lutheran, with most liberal views. King Oscar of Sweden is of the same faith, and much devoted to Biblical study. Colonel Eduard Müller, President of the Swiss Federation [since this was written Ernest Brenner has been elected—EDITOR L. D.], is a Protestant, altho the French and Italian cantons of Switzerland are to a considerable extent Roman Catholic.

Francis Joseph of Austro-Hungary is a particularly devout Roman Catholic, and in Holy Week himself ministers in the ceremony of washing the feet of twelve aged men. Carlos I. of Portugal, on the other hand, is spoken of as a rather indolent and apathetic adherent of the same faith. Among the other Roman Catholic rulers are the President of France, M. Loubet, who is a very democratic Christian, the Prince Regent of Bavaria, the King of Würtemberg, King Leopold of Belgium, and King Victor Emanuel of Italy. The latter, as we have lately pointed out, is credited by a recent writer in *The Catholic World* with being indifferent to religion, possibly an unbeliever; but other Italian observers believe that, whether or not this is true, he desires peace with the church.

In the Western Hemisphere, Canada is ruled by a Protestant viceroy, Lord Aberdeen, and a Roman Catholic premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. All the Presidents of the United States who have had church affiliations have been Protestants. President Diaz, of Mexico, and all the Presidents of Central and South America are Roman Catholics, altho perhaps in some cases only nominally such.

The Orthodox Eastern Church also claims a number of rulers, the greatest, of course, being the Czar. Both he and the Czarina are said to be very punctilious in their worship. They have magnificent private chapels, both in their St. Petersburg and their Moscow palaces. The music, as in all Greek churches, is entirely vocal, and the altar—which in the Czar's chapel is behind golden gates on which sacred subjects are frescoed—is suddenly disclosed

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when the gates burst open at the "Gloria," sung by the invisible choir. Among the other Orthodox Eastern rulers are King George and Queen Olga of Greece, King Charles and his queen "Carmen Sylva" of Rumania, and King Alexander of Servia, altho the latter is said to be a good deal of a Laodicean.

Menelik II., King of Abyssinia, belongs to one of the Oriental churches regarded as heretical by Latin and Greek Catholics and by most Protestants. Its doctrines coincide with those of the Egyptian Coptic Church, especially in the so-called "monophysite heresy" (the belief that Christ has only one nature, in which are united the divine and human) besides the observance of circumcision, and of other Jewish ordinances. Menelik, besides being an able warrior, is a devoted churchman, and attends service daily.

Among the non-Christian religions, Mohammedanism claims the largest number of rulers. Besides the Sultan, who goes to the mosque in Constantinople each Friday attended by ten thousand soldiers, there are the Khedive of Egypt, the Shah of Persia, who is said to be perfunctory in his religious observances, the Sultan of Morocco, and a score of lesser sovereigns of the East. The King of Siam is a Buddhist and was for a time a priest, as is the royal custom in that country. The numerous native rulers of India are almost wholly adherents of the ancient Vedic faith. The royal family of Japan are disciples of Shintoism, for centuries the faith of their ancestors, altho they show particular favor to one of the two great Howanji sects of Buddhism. The Emperor of China is said to be the greatest royal martyr to religious ceremonials. As chief high priest of China, whose official religion is Confucianism—altho Buddhism and Taoism are also officially recognized—he has to offer a sacrifice to a different god almost every week in the year. To each sacrifice is dedicated at least one holiday—often more—which the Emperor is supposed to pass in solitude. Altogether he spends more than a hundred and fifty days a year in religious duties.

IS PROTESTANT SCHOLARSHIP SUPERIOR TO ROMAN CATHOLIC?

THE Protestant and the Roman Catholic, like the religious, or for that matter the partizan, controversialist in general, is inclined to attribute to his own system certain fruits of outward superiority. Thus, the Rev. Joseph McSorley, of the Paulist Society, lately contended that Protestantism tends to destroy belief in Christ's divinity (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, November 10). From an opposite standpoint Prof. George H. Schodde, of the Capital University, Columbus, O., asserts that Roman Catholicism is inimical to scholarship. "Not only," he says, "are the nations in which Protestant principles control the ideas and ideals of the peoples the history-making factors of the day, but this preeminence is even more marked in spheres of literature, letters, and research." Writing in the New York *Observer* (Presbyterian), he says:

"In probably no other country can a fairer test of the comparative activities and success of Protestantism over against especially Roman Catholicism be made than can be done in Germany, where both of these great communions have been engaged in a struggle with equal chances for nearly four hundred years, to gain the mastery of the thought and life of the people. Cardinal Wiseman's prediction that the great apocalyptic battle between the hosts and principles of Protestantism and Roman Catholicism 'would be fought out on the sands of Prussia,' was based on a close study of the present and the past of Germany's Christianity.

"Whatever may have been the victories of the Catholic Church of the Fatherland in the political and other spheres (some of which have been noteworthy, especially in the Kulturkampf, and the virtual surrender of Bismarck), in the world of scholarship and research that church has no results to exhibit that in any way would be a justification of its numerical and political strength in the empire. There can be no doubt that in Biblical research in particular, and also in many other departments of abstract investigation, the Germans lead the world. The presence of 2,500 foreign students at the universities of that country during the past semester is a public and international recognition of this preeminence. As the Catholic contingent is about one third and more of the population of the land of Luther, that church would be expected to furnish at least thirty-five per cent. of the teaching force at these institutions, which in Germany are the headquarters and fountains of the trends and tendencies controlling scholarship to a degree unknown in France, England, or America. And yet recent statistics show that of the 2,178 professors and teachers who constitute the non-theological faculties of the twenty-one universities, only 277, or little more than thirteen per cent., are adherents of the Roman Catholic Church. Of the 32,331 students who were enrolled, less than twenty per cent. belonged to this church, while the Protestant contingent was considerably above the percentage which its relative position in the total of the population entitled it to have. The ratio, however, in the ranks of the teaching force is highly significant. In Germany the universities are state institutions, in no way or manner officially influenced by church interests, except in reference to the theological departments. Admittance to membership in a university faculty is secured solely and alone through scientific competence and scholarly attainments. The most precious possession of the university, cherished as its greatest historic right, is the perfect 'Lehrfreihert' [liberty in teaching] of its teachers. Only recently the faculty in Berlin protested against the removal of the Jewish privat-docent Ahrons by the state, on the ground that he taught a political economy dangerous to society, the university claiming that his doctrines were the results of his special researches.

"With such factors controlling university opportunities, it is apparent that the remarkably small proportion of Catholic teachers in the non-theological faculties is in evidence, together with many others, of the relative inferiority of the scholarship of that church. It is remarkable that not even in Freiburg or Würzburg, which have only Catholic but no Protestant theological faculties, are the Catholic professors in the majority. Munich is the only institution that can in this sense be called a Catholic university, the Catholic teachers numbering 86, and the Protestant 78. In Berlin, out of 345 men, only 19 are Catholics; in Catholic Bonn, only 19 out of 117; Göttingen, only 8 out of 104; Heidelberg, 7 out of 121; Strassburg, 4 out of 119; Tübingen, 7 out of 68.

"In other spheres the same leadership of Protestant scholarship appears. In the Old-Testament department even the Jews have not produced a single real leader, and in neither Old- nor New-Testament lines have the Catholic scholars made more than timid attempts to reconcile their traditional views with some of the sure results of recent investigations. Even such a literary venture as the publication of the magnificent edition of the Greek Fathers of the first four centuries undertaken on so grand a scale by the Berlin Academy of Sciences, is not, as one would naturally expect, the product of Catholic, but chiefly of Protestant scholarship, the prime mover and worker in this project being the brilliant and indefatigable Harnack, of Berlin. The only prominent literary society of Germany which is purely Catholic is the Görresgesellschaft, yet it and its work are in the hands of a select few, who receive as little general recognition by the church authorities as did Dr. Schell, of Würzburg, whose work, in which he aimed to demonstrate that Catholic teachings are in conformity with the best of modern research, was placed upon the Index.

"In France a similar phenomenon has recently become prominent. The reform element in the Catholic Church itself had been declaring loud and long against the comparative inferiority of the higher educational institutions of the church, and our energetic mother superior, Mère Marie, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in a special book 'Les Réligieuses Enseignantes et les Nécessités d'Apostolat,' has aroused a widespread interest in educational reform, even among the higher clergy of the country. A recent decision from Rome effectually crushed the movement."

Jerusalem as a World-Center for the Jews.—Quite apart from the Zionist propaganda, the success of which is as yet problematical, a strongly backed movement exists among all classes of European Jews for reviving Jerusalem as the center of Jewish life. The London *Jewish Chronicle*, which has continuously opposed the Zionist plans of Dr. Herzl, looks with much favor upon this new movement. It says:

"One does not need to favor the idea of acquiring Palestine as

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a Jewish possession in order to see that its capital might yet become a rallying-point for Jews in all parts of the world. A religious brotherhood, no less than a nation, may stand in need of a geographical center which should serve as a visible embodiment of its corporate existence. Rome is still the religious center of Catholics, notwithstanding the loss of temporal power by the Catholic Church. It is true that Rome is also the seat of the Papacy, and this is an institution which could never find any counterpart in Jewish life. Even the title of Prince of the Captivity could not with safety be revived among Jews in modern times. Such an office, by placing too much authority in the hands of one man, might conceivably favor the forces of reaction. But Jerusalem could be transformed into a center of Jewish life without making it the seat of personal power. The establishment of a great academy or university, where every branch of Jewish learning would be cultivated, taught by men of world-wide reputation, and attracting Jewish students from all parts of the world, would be the most striking feature in this new Jerusalem. The nucleus of such a university has already sprung into existence in the new 'Toynbee Hall,' with its library of eighteen thousand Jewish books, and the many opportunities of intellectual and social improvement which it affords to old and young. Another department of the university might take the form of a museum of Jewish antiquities. Nor does it require a great stretch of the imagination to picture a great synagog in Jerusalem—a sort of Jewish cathedral—to be constructed by the munificent offerings of the Jews of every country, whose architectural features, religious services, and other details would be on a scale of imposing magnificence. Religious study and ritual being thus provided for, the third essential of Jewish life might be represented—not by an addition to the Chaluka, but by an institution which would help the Jews of Jerusalem to dispense with pauperizing charity. A Jewish technical school, on a larger plan than anything that has yet been attempted, would help in this direction. Measures of this kind possess the saving merit that they appeal to all classes of Jews who cherish a reverence for their past, whether Zionists or non-Zionists, and they could be undertaken at any time without the necessity of obtaining unwelcome concessions from the Sultan of Turkey or the powers of Europe."

THE NEWEST STATEMENT OF ADVANCED CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY.

THE school of higher Biblical criticism, which has numerous representatives in most of the Christian denominations, is usually composed of the younger men, whose views are largely influenced by the new critical researches of the German scholarship. A notable exception to this rule is the Rev. L. L. Paine, professor of ecclesiastical history in the Bangor Theological Seminary, a congregational institution. Altho he received his own theological education some forty years ago, his new book, entitled "A Critical History of the Evolution of Trinitarianism and its Outcome in the New Christology," contains most radical teaching. He regards the fourth Gospel as a Gnostic document of a date not earlier than 150 A.D. The opening chapters of Matthew and Luke are, he says, spurious, and some other parts of them have slight historical value. He regards the miraculous birth story as a fable, and the doctrine of the divinity of Jesus as a piece of metaphysical speculation. He recognizes, however, an historic Christ, and, somewhat in the same manner as Mrs. Humphry Ward, believes that this Christ will draw all men to a higher life and to God. *The Christian Work* (non-denom., December 6), in commenting on what it calls this "very newest theology" of Dr. Paine, says:

"It may as well be recognized frankly that theology is undergoing a great change. A good deal of medieval speculation is being sloughed off. The fraternization of denominations shows that far less importance is attached now than formerly to theological distinctions. There is vastly more study of Christ Himself than there was once, and dogmas not very plainly stated in the Christian documents are put forth much more modestly than they were once. All this is the healthful result of modern historical and scientific methods. Alarming as they are to the more conservative, it is still a fact that in the propagation of the Gospel and in ministering to the needs of the ignorant and suffering, upon which our Lord laid an emphasis not yet fully appreciated—Dr. Stalker says that theology has done no sort of justice to the ethics of Jesus—the evangelical churches are doing more than in any previous period. The time when any leading divine can say that Christianity is a dogma to be believed rather than a life to be lived is very near its end, if it has not reached its end. But there is not yet any indication that the supernatural elements in the personality and career of Jesus of Nazareth are losing their hold upon men, and if the churches that profess the name of Jesus Christ are gradually and perhaps unconsciously dropping doctrines that were prominently held centuries ago, it is because these are now believed to be medieval and not apostolic; it is not because the Christian documents are rejected, tho the correction of the text has relegated to the margin or expunged a few phrases that have been overworked as texts of doctrinal sermons."

The United Free Church of Scotland.—The recent union of the United Church and the Free Church of Scotland in one ecclesiastical organization, while regarded by many people in Scotland and elsewhere as one of the most significant religious events of late years, is not without its detractors, and mutterings of dissent are said to be heard here and there. *The Independent* (December 6) says:

"A number of ministers in the North and West Highlands are forming themselves into presbyteries, and a somewhat rash statement went out that the entire Highlands had revolted against the union. This does not seem to be borne out by the facts, and for the most part the congregations of both churches are accepting the situation cordially. There are various blunders reported in the use of the new name, even clerks of assembly making an occasional slip. Lookers-on comment in varied terms. Members of the Establishment, chiefly in England, watch to see what the effect will be upon the Established Church in Scotland, and affirm that quite a number of the Free Churchmen, especially wealthy laymen who are opposed to the Establishment, not so much in principle as in its manifestation, and are not disposed to identify themselves with the very pronounced disestablishment spirit of the United Church, will little by little withdraw from the United Free Church and connect themselves either with the Established Church (Presbyterian) or with the Episcopal Church of Scotland. To what degree these prophecies will be justified remains to be seen in the future. Others watch to see what position the new body will assume in matters of public interest, such as social questions and doctrinal discussions. The Free Church has been for the most part conservative, the United Church rather more liberal, and just which element will control in the union is a subject of interested discussion. In general the outlook seems favorable for strong and aggressive work to be done by the new body."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

IT is not often that a Roman Catholic prelate meets such opposition in his diocese as Bishop Sbarretti is encountering in Havana. The bishop, who is a native of Italy, but was secretary of the Papal legation in Washington before he was sent by the Pope to Havana, has made, so his friends claim, a laudable record in behalf of the moral and educational advancement of his diocese, especially of the negroes; but Cisneros, Gomez, and the extreme nationalist party still declare that they will have none of him because he is not a Cuban. The Havana correspondent of *The New Century* (Roman Catholic, Washington, December 8) appears to believe, however, that the bishop will hold his own, and that even Gomez will finally be won over.

SOME haziness appears to exist in many minds as to the theological distinction between Unitarians and Universalists. The famost *bon mot* of Starr King, himself a Unitarian, that "Universalists believe God is too good to damn men, and Unitarians believe that men are too good to be damned," was once regarded as expressing the matter in a nutshell. Now, however, Mr. George Willis Cooke, from whose interesting articles on current religion in the Boston *Evening Transcript* we have recently quoted, says that this distinction is no longer valid. "It is not a theological but a psychological difference that keeps these duplicated sects from close affiliation." The Unitarian, he remarks, looks upon religion more from the intellectual side, while the Universalist views it more from the intuitional and evangelical standpoint. Nevertheless there is a well-defined party in the former church who favor an organic union. Among the Universalists little disposition toward this course is to be discovered.

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

WILL CHINA BE BROUGHT TO TERMS?

HEINRICH CORDES, the secretary of the German legation at Peking, attributes the murder of v. Ketteler to the vengefulness of those high Chinese officials who were in open accord with the Boxers, and whose double-dealing the German ambassador had denounced. The story, as it is now told in Germany, renders the Germans less than ever inclined to exhibit leniency to the guilty parties, for the murder was undoubtedly premeditated. But that Germany will be able to obtain the punishment of such men as Prince Tuan, Duke Lan, Kang-Yi, Yung-Lu, etc., appears more and more doubtful, even if the powers loyally stand together. Lu-Heng, the Chinese ambassador in Paris, who sympathizes with the modern reformers, expressed himself in the main as follows in an interview for the Paris *Matin:*

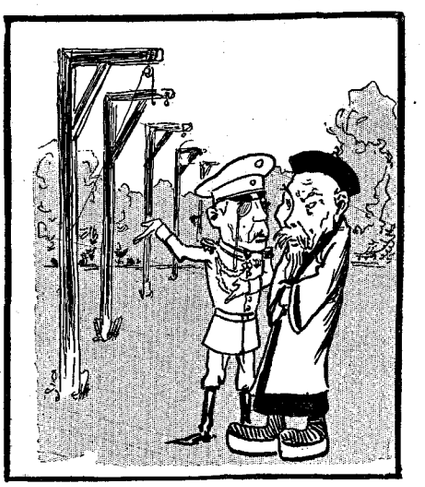
It is not enough to formulate terms. There must be some one responsible to insure the execution of such terms, and there is no one in China upon whom the powers can depend. Li Hung Chang and his colleagues are as plenipotentiaries merely a diplomatic fiction. If they oppose the powers, they will find that they are useless; if they come to terms, they are certain to lose their heads when they fall into the hands of the Empress and her advisers. All they can do is to gain time by intrigue. It is impossible to execute the terms formulated by the ambassadors. The Boxers can not be annihilated by an imperial edict in China any more than the Anarchists can be made to vanish by a government order in France. The prohibition of the importation of arms is useless. China will simply import European engineers and manufacure for herself what she needs. The guilty princes will never be executed except as they are now in cablegrams which report their punishment. But even if they are punished the Chinese authorities will regard the peace which follows only as an armistice, to be ended as soon as China is strong enough. The powers must act. They are only wasting their time in diplomatic and military skirmishes. They must obtain the person of the Emperor and bring him to Peking and free him once for all from the influence of the Empress-Dowager. My imperial master was dethroned because he made honest attempts at reform. If he is given back his power, Europe will obtain an honest ally and trustworthy guaranties.

WHERE WILL HE GET IT?

"The (Walder) Sea roars and demands a sacrifice."
—*Munich Jugend.*

The German papers report that the German Government will not on any account act without the concurrence of the other powers. Germany's position is far too exposed for that, and altho her people think that she has been repeatedly snubbed, both in the person of Graf v. Waldersee and in the negotiations which are to lead to a settlement of the Chinese question, Germany has no remedy. The *Vossische Zeitung* (Berlin) says:

"The Chancellor has already given the explicit declaration that Germany will make no attempt to enforce her own desires, and that nothing will be done without an agreement from the other powers. But that does not take away the fact that the course at present pursued appears unwise. To relax the demand for punishment of the guilty chiefs is not only wrong from the standpoint of justice, but it is also a political mistake, and as such it is regarded by the ambassadors in China. These gentlemen ought to know; but if their governments think differently, Germany must acquiesce."



COUNT VON WALDERSEE TO LI HUNG CHANG.

"The first (or preliminary) framework of the monument to peace is already erected."
—*Humoristische Blätter, Vienna.*

The attitude of the United States is the subject of much criticism. The *St. Petersburger Zeitung* expresses itself to the following effect:

What the United States Government really wants it is not easy to ascertain, considering the quantity of indecisive official and muddled semi-official news from Washington. This much seems certain: the United States Government is negotiating over the head of its own ambassador in China; there is a wonderful talk of 'humanity'—from the United States, with its anti-Chinese laws—and the main object seems to be to oppose anything and everything the powers have decided. It is not clear what punishment Washington suggests for the ringleaders of the anti-foreign movement, and as there is opposition, in principle, to the indemnities which are to be exacted, the Tsung-li-Yamen and the Chinese court need not hurry to consider the question of terms.

The London *Times* undertakes to describe how public opinion is "doctored" in the United States. Its New York correspondent writes as follows:

"The reserve which the President imposed on himself respecting China did not restrain Mr. Roosevelt. The new Vice-President was in a prophetic mood. He accepts the Washington estimate of Washington diplomacy, saying: 'It has been the signal good fortune of this nation on the first occasion when it mixed in the world's politics to fix the standard to which the other nations of the world will come in dealing with the affairs of the great Asiatic nation.'

"That is the note which daily has been heard from Washington—a continuing appeal to American pride in American diplomacy because it is American. In the latest Washington despatches this note is shriller than ever. They say in effect: 'The powers have failed in China because they have not followed our advice; now we are advising them again.' . . . That is the substance of long Washington telegrams based on the unknown contents of the new American circular. I am far from saying that their summary is correct. I only say that these telegrams appear in different organs of the Administration, varying in language but identical in substance. If not true, they are what the State Department, or somebody speaking in its name, desires that the American people should think true."

The *Journal des Débats* (Paris) uses the above as a correct statement of American attitude, and fears that the "concert" is broken up so far as the assistance of the United States goes, but declares that the other powers, who have enough force in the field to impose terms, will not accept the American suggestion

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that China is to be her own judge. The London *Standard* thinks that nothing but signal punishment will have a lasting effect. It says:

"The death penalty would be the only fully satisfactory measure of justice; the difficulty is to execute it. The guilty parties are far in the interior, and are masters of the Emperor, who is the only legitimate and, as far as we can see, the only possible, head of the Government in China. The United States has not disguised its view that something less ought to be demanded, and Russia, France, and Japan are understood to be of the same opinion. It is hardly possible for Germany to hold out, deeply offended as she is, if these powers are disposed to moderation, and, indeed, our Berlin correspondent informs us that the Government at Berlin is believed to be prepared to waive the death penalty. But whatever its exact nature, the punishment of the Boxer chiefs must be real and lasting, and not a mere formal court disgrace."

Meanwhile it looks as if the military authorities are settling the matter their own way. Graf Waldersee seems to exercise much more real authority than the newspaper diplomatists and commanders are willing to allot him, and international expeditions against distant Boxer strongholds are organized by him. While Russian commanders, "through misinterpretation of orders," are practically annexing large portions of Northern China, the German, French, and British troops are so establishing themselves in different sections that a partitioning *de facto* if not *de jure* seems to have begun. The *Handelsblad* sketches the situation as follows:

Graf Waldersee has at last given Li Hung Chang an audience. Li made use of this often-asked interview to demand the withdrawal of all the foreign troops from Pechili. Waldersee the next day sent an expedition of Germans, Austrians, and Italians against the Boxers near the Chinese wall, which is regarded as the only fitting answer to Li's complaints. The Emperor is practically in the power of Tung-fu-Hsiang, but he has some hopes that General Ma may come to his assistance. The latter wishes to be revenged upon Tung-fu-Hsiang for the murder of a nephew. Prince Tuan is raising an army for his own defense in Kau-su. Only a large force could capture him.

There is a report that the efforts of the naval commanders will prevent the Chinese from obtaining adequate supplies of provisions at Singan-Fu. In that case the court may be starved into submission, unless it removes still further inland.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CHINESE REPUBLICS IN MANCHURIA.

MANCHURIA has long been known for its wealth of gold; and the high development of gilds and trusts, for which China is noted, early led to combinations among the gold-seekers for the purpose of excluding outsiders. Some of these "states within the state" were hardly more than robber republics; others attained to a high degree of organization. The Sheltuga republic, in Northern Manchuria, founded in the eighties, but afterward destroyed by the Chinese Government, will be remembered by many readers. More lasting was Chapigau, which resisted the Russian advance very strongly, and of which the St. Petersburg *Viedomosti* relates the following:

The beginnings of Chapigau date back one hundred and fifty years, when the gold-diggers united for better protection and elected a Da-e or elder. The Sheltuga state, founded chiefly by foreigners, was regarded with suspicion by the Chinese from the first; but Chapigau, on the contrary, was favored by the authorities. During the middle of the nineteenth century it had 10,000 inhabitants. After that it rose rapidly, especially after a Chinaman named Chau-ju-bao had been chosen as head. He extended his power over the whole region of the upper Ssungari. The valleys of the region had separate administration, but Chau-ju-bao appointed the chiefs. He left the administration of justice to his assistants, but reserved the signing of death-warrants to himself. All gold had to be handed over to the central administration, which charged a tax of two to three per cent., and gave cash or checks for the rest. The farmers paid a moderate land tax. Merchants and industrials were taxed about as in the rest of Manchuria. Chau-ju-bao had a company of well-trained and well-armed soldiers, which formed the nucleus of his army; but every district had to furnish a certain number of armed men on demand. As Chau-ju-bao kept on good terms with the governor of Girin, no attempt was made to subject Chapigau to a more than nominal acknowledgment of Chinese rule. In the Chinese-Japanese war, Chapigau furnished three *élite* companies to the Chinese Government, led by Chau-ju-bao's grandson. Order and security reigned in Chapigau as nowhere else in Manchuria. The moral influence of Chau-ju-bao was such that neighboring farmers would appeal to him when oppressed by their mandarins, and he would send troops to enforce his authority in favor of the oppressed. At present the power of Chau-ju-bao seems to have descended to Chai-den-gu, his equally energetic grandson. He had no intention to submit without a struggle, and with the assistance of some Chinese regulars who have retired to his territory, he is making a gallant stand against the Russians.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

DISCONTENT IN SPAIN.

IN different provinces of Spain the constitutional guarantees are still suspended. Disturbances have taken place and rebellion is feared. As usual upon such occasions the Carlists, supported mainly by the clergy, who hope for a return to unrestricted power under Carlist rule, are very active. But it is certain that the cause of the prevailing discontent is economical rather than political. Don Carlos, in an interview for the *Gazzetta di Veneziæ*, expresses himself as follows:

The rising has begun without my orders and even against my will. Most likely some honest but overhasty Carlist leaders thought to use the prevalent dissatisfaction of the Catalan workingmen for Carlist purposes. But the movement was not begun by the Carlists. This is proven by the fact that in Navarre, Valencia, Castile, and Biscaya, all strongholds of Carlism, the people are quiet. We do not know the names of the leaders, and we do not wish for an unsuccessful attempt which must needs affect our chances badly.

This declaration on the part of Don Carlos is accepted as correct by the opposition, who do not believe that the country is ready to support Carlism even if the Pretender wished to place himself at the head of the movement. The *Liberal* (Madrid) says:

"The Carlists did not make use of the occasion when Spain, during the war with the United States, was denuded of troops. They will not rebel now, when one of their own princes, the Prince of Carsta, is to be married to the Princess of Asturia. The Carlist danger can not be as great as the Government, in order to excuse its illiberal measures, would make it appear. Otherwise Sagasta, who always opposed this marriage of the Infanta, is proven right."

General Weyler, whose appointment as captain-general of Madrid is regarded as proof that much rigor will be exercised in the suppression of all rebellious movements, also doubts that the Carlists do more than watch the discontent of the masses, in order to turn it to their advantage should the occasion arise. He expresses himself as follows in an interview for the *Kölnische Zeitung* (Cologne):

The so-called Carlist movement looks more like a stock-exchange maneuver than a serious rebellion. Carlism no longer has a root among the people. In Cataluna distinction is certainly to be made between the Catalan and Carlist movements. Industrial Cataluna is very different from the rest of Spain, and there is now an industrial crisis. Shortly after the repatriation of the soldiers we had a false prosperity. Two hundred and fifty thousand men had to be provided with winter clothing. The Government should then have provided for the reaction,

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but nothing was done. A lowering of the taxes, subsidies to the commercial marine and to exporters could have done much good. Instead, however, the existence of the crisis was denied when it came, and the governor of Barcelona went so far as to assist the strikers against their employers. Many manufacturers gave up the struggle, they closed their factories altogether, and even sold their raw materials to foreign competitors. Now there is much misery in Barcelona. The proud Catalan workmen do not beg, they revolt; but they are not Carlists. They are much more inclined to be Socialists and even Anarchists, and as agriculture has declined very much, many Carlist peasants have become republican workmen. But if I should prove to be mistaken, and a general Carlist rising takes place, I shall crush it with all the energy I possess. The time when the army dealt in pronunciamentos is past. It will defend the constitution and the laws.

Throughout Europe the opinion seems to prevail that Carlism has little chance of success, and that, indeed, the poverty caused by the industrial depression which could not fail to follow the political breakdown of Spain is the real cause of the discontent in Spain.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

LORD ROSEBERY'S NAPOLEON.

"WILL there ever be an adequate life of Napoleon?" asks Lord Rosebery, by way of introduction, in his new book, "Napoleon; the Last Phase," which some critics hasten to declare the chief literary event of the year.

Lord Beaconsfield once explained to Lord Rosebery why he wrote the drama "Count Alarcos." It was written, he said, not in the hope of producing a great tragedy, but of laying the literary ghost of a story which haunted him. "So it is," says Lord Rosebery, "with this little book. It can not help embodying a tragedy, but it was written to lay a literary ghost dormant for years, and only quickened into activity by the analysis of Gourgaud's last journals." The book gives us a picture of the great Corsican's captivity when he and his few faithful companions "were perched like crippled sea-birds on a tropical rock." Russia, Austria, and France sent commissioners to St. Helena to assure themselves of Bonaparte's presence. As a matter of fact, we are told, they never or scarcely ever saw him.

"The Russian commissioner declared that nothing could be more absurd, more impolitic, less generous, or less delicate than the conduct of the English to Napoleon." Lord Rosebery indorses every word of this condemnation. He says:

"If St. Helena recalls painful memories for the French, much more poignant are those it excites among ourselves. It was a misfortune for England to be represented by men who forgot the dignity of their own nation and ignored the quality of their prisoner. A great people must not descend to pettiness. In the treatment of Napoleon there was a pettiness all through.

"'We wish,' wrote Lord Liverpool, 'that the King of France would hang or shoot Bonaparte as the best termination of the business.' This was the spirit of men toward one who threw himself on British magnanimity. They feared the extraordinary glamour about the fallen monarch, and therefore ordered that he was to be treated not as a former emperor, but 'as a general not in employ.' . . . Half of the trouble of the tactless and unfortunate Sir Hudson Lowe, the governor of St. Helena, would have been unknown had he been permitted to address his illustrious prisoner as the Emperor Napoleon; but hardly had he landed on the island when he sent the following invitation to Longwood: 'Should the arrangements of General Bonaparte admit it, Sir Hudson and Lady Lowe should feel gratified in the honor of his company, to meet the Countess of Loudoun at dinner on Monday next at six o'clock. They request Count Bertrand to make the invitation known to him and forward them his reply.' The faithful Bertrand did make the invitation known to the Emperor, who merely remarked, 'It is too silly; send no reply.'

"Lady Loudoun was the countess wife of Lord Moira, the governor-general of India. Sir Hudson thought it an amiable condescension to invite Napoleon to dinner with the countess, and addressed him by a title which he well knew the Emperor considered an insult to France and himself. The irritation was maintained to the end. Hobhouse sent his book on 'The Hundred Days' to Napoleon, writing inside it, 'Imperatori Napoleoni.' This book, tho the inscription after all in strictness only meant 'To General Napoleon,' the conscientious Lowe sequestered.

"Three weeks before his death, the sick captive sent Coxe's 'Life of Marlborough' as a token of good will to the officers of the Twentieth Regiment. Unfortunately, the imperial title was written or printed on the title-page, and the present, under orders of the governor, was declined. In those days the Twentieth Regiment would perhaps not mind possessing the life of the greatest English general, given by the greatest of the French. Yet to the very end, to the grave itself, this pettiness was kept up. On the Emperor's coffin plate his followers desired to place the simple inscription, 'Napoleon,' with dates and place of his birth and death. Sir Hudson refused his sanction to this unless 'Bonaparte' were added; but the Emperor's suite felt themselves unable to agree to the style which their master had declined to accept. So there was no name on the coffin. It seems incredible, but it is true."

Lord Rosebery, however, blames the Government rather than Sir Hudson Lowe and Admiral Cockburn for this offensive treatment of Napoleon. He remarks further:

"Of those successors of Pitt, Liverpool, Eldon, Bathurst, Castlereagh, and Sedmouth were men whose names can scarcely be said to glow in history. They had caught their great enemy. Their first wish was to get somebody else to shoot him or hang him, failing which they were determined to lock him up like a pickpocket. All they felt clearly was that he had cost them a great deal of money, so that he must cost them as little more as possible. They were honest men acting up to their lights. We can only regret that the men were dull and their lights were dim."

Lord Rosebery then sketches the Emperor's life at Longwood:

"The master of many palaces is domiciled in a damp house, swept by eternal winds, containing two small rooms fourteen feet by twelve feet. In one corner is a little camp bed, used at Marengo and Austerlitz. Here, and on one side in the adjoining room, he spends many a sleepless night, while on an old sofa he passes the long hours of many a tedious day. In these extiguous quarters he upholds at times the rigid etiquette of a court. Gourgaud, Bertrand, Monthalon, and Dr. Anton Marchi are kept standing till they are ill with fatigue and lean against the furniture. If Madame Bertrand or Madame de Montholon enters, and the men rise unbidden, they are sharply rebuked. Napoleon is served on gold and silver plate, and waited on by French servants in liveries of green and gold. A vacant place is kept for the Empress, but is given now and then to some favored lady. When he drives out, it is in a carriage with six horses, and an equerry in full uniform at each door.

"His rooms are littered with books. His one real pleasure is the arrival of new works to read. He took eight hundred volumes to St. Helena, including the Bible, Ossian, Homer, Bossuet, and all the seventy volumes of Voltaire. The British Government sent him a bill of £1,400 for the books, and the sum being unpaid at his death they sold them in London for a few hundred pounds.

"These glimpses of his life in captivity present us a new Napoleon, exhibiting patience and forbearance with those around him, suffering their contradictions and ill temper in a way we never expect from the selfish, domineering, violent commander. We see him playing at chess not very well, cheating at games, tho never taking winnings, moralizing against gambling. Reading and conversation were the principal distractions. In spite of all, the weariness and *ennui* of this mighty spirit are terrible.

"He turns upon the petulant, captious, sulky Gourgaud with pathetic truth: 'You speak of sorrow, you and L——. What sorrows have I not had! What things to reproach myself with? You at any rate have nothing to regret. Do you suppose that when I wake at night I have not had moments when I think of what I was and what I am?'"

Lord Rosebery continues with this passage:

"Europe buckled itself to the unprecedented task of gagging

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and paralyzing that intelligence and force that were too gigantic for the welfare and security of the world. That is the strange, unique, hideous problem, which makes the records of St. Helena so profoundly painful and fascinating.

"Napoleon often gibed at the English; yet he said: 'The English character is superior to ours. They are in every thing more practical than we are. They emigrate, they marry, they kill themselves with less indecision than we display in going to the opera. They are also braver than we are. I think I can say that in courage they are to us what we are to the Russians, the Russians to the Germans, the Germans to the Italians. Had I had an English army, I should have conquered the universe!"

Lord Rosebery's view of Napoleon is, in general, a favorable one. Morally, he thinks the man Napoleon not so black as he is painted. He suggests that Napoleon's civil and military careers should be treated separately, each by experts, and when all is done he perhaps will remain an enigma of history, possibly because the secret is so complex, possibly because there is none—"only the play and decision of destiny."

LORD ROSEBERY AND A THIRD PARTY IN ENGLAND.

A NUMBER of British Liberals, among them the official head of the party, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, have urged Lord Rosebery to accept once more the leadership of the Liberal Party in Parliament. *The Standard* (London), organ of the Conservatives, points out that the conditions which led Lord Rosebery to resign have not been altered. It says:

"No one knows why Lord Rosebery withdrew from his post. Every one longs for his return. This is Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's ingenuous version of the mystery of the lost leader. Unfortunately for his credit, Lord Rosebery has told his own tale with absolute candor. He ceased to lead because he found that his party refused to acknowledge his authority. He gave up the semblance of power because at every turn he was vexed and thwarted by intrigues. It is to a statesman still smarting under the humiliation of so ambiguous a position that one of the lieutenants who failed him now addresses smooth words of invitation. 'Return!' But return to what? With astonishing courage, Sir Henry answers: To the Liberal Party just as it was when Lord Rosebery found it wanting in every element of cohesion and discipline."

What makes the matter especially interesting is that the Conservatives welcome the idea of Lord Rosebery's return to active politics, because of his imperialistic tendencies. *The Daily Graphic* says:

"He is the only man who has any recognized right to speak in the name of the party as a whole. He frankly admits that on some points the whole party is not united; but he claims that the points of difference are confined to foreign and colonial affairs, and that even on these four fifths of the party are in agreement. If that statement is justified, it follows that at least four fifths of the party is prepared to accept Lord Rosebery's leadership. There is good reason on other grounds to believe that this is not an extravagant estimate. The general election has taught the little Englanders a severe lesson. They realize that the country is sick of them, and that by continuing to shout in the wilderness they effect nothing."

But this approval, not to say enthusiasm, with which many Conservatives hail the possibility of a new Rosebery leadership is taken by Liberals of the old school as an indication that the Conservatives do not see between Lord Rosebery's principles and their own sharply defined differences which have heretofore distinguished Liberals from Conservatives.

The Manchester *Guardian* (Radical) says:

"For the past fortnight *The Times* has mingled the usual censures of Liberalism, its spirit and all its works, with assurances that if the Liberal Party were under Lord Rosebery's control it would be a party very much to *The Times's* mind. . . . Roughly speaking, those whose view it has always been that the Liberal Party is a standing evil have for the last few days been stating it as their view that if Lord Rosebery could be made the leader of the Liberal Party this evil would be practically removed. . . . Conservatives are evidently satisfied, too, that by the accidents of his position Lord Rosebery is bound over pretty effectually not to carry domestic reform far past the first point at which the comfortable interests would begin to suffer serious discomfort. These are only a few of the points at which, in their open-hearted fervor of the last few days, good Conservatives have uncovered the sources of their desire for Lord Rosebery's promotion. But they show the drift of Conservative opinion and the general nature and origin of the Conservative feeling that in our malignant Liberal tribe Lord Rosebery is the one 'friendly' who can be trusted with arms."

The Westminster Gazette (Liberal) doubts that Lord Rosebery under such circumstances will accept the leadership. He could not be certain of the support of the whole party, and the success of a third party is much to be doubted. It says:

"The deliberate formation of a third party without an emergency to justify it, and without proof that the existing parties were unequal to their public duty, would be faction, even if it succeeded. It would be quite another matter if, in the course of the present parliament, a section of ministerialists declared themselves sincerely discontented with the present Government and called upon Lord Rosebery to lead them in common with Liberals whose views coincided with theirs; or if a national emergency arose to which the present Government was manifestly unequal. Then, however disturbing it might be to party-men of the existing parties, the new party would be entirely justified. But to create a third party at this moment would be futile in itself and contrary to the public interest. Let us add that we do not for a moment suppose that Lord Rosebery contemplates any such thing; but *The Times* raises an important issue when it makes the suggestion."

Lord Rosebery's brilliancy as a speaker and writer is generally conceded in England. But has he the stuff from which great leaders are made? *The St. James's Gazette* seems doubtful on this point, and prods him, as well as other British statesmen, as follows:

"They [British statesmen] are all listening, all afraid of their own thoughts, all seeking a refuge from the imaginary dulness, or suspicion, or wrath of the democracy in a kind of polished silence. They will not speak lest they should perchance offend, or be misunderstood, or stir up feelings of which they were not aware. The ignorant speak out, but those who know say nothing, more especially if they are aristocrats, for every aristocrat has lurking somewhere in his brain the belief that democracy is really a wolf to be held by the ears. Even Mr. Labouchere has that, tho, unlike most of his order, he would like to let the wolf go. The democracy all the while is merely a mass of individuals, most of them duly respectable and sensible persons, all pining for the lead which nobody will give them. Among these offenders we count Lord Rosebery first, because of the contrast between his silence and his intellectual powers. He is bound to be silent, he will say, until he is in office; but in truth he is like the regular American politician, who maintains silence as to his real thoughts lest they should keep him out of office. It is fear, not etiquette, that moves him, and induces him, and those like him, to keep back real instruction lest in the flood of criticism their chances should be damaged. . . . . .

"The country at this moment is distressed by the Boer war, alarmed, as Lord Rosebery is, by its new relation to the Continent, bewildered by its own incapacity to arrive at a purpose in China, and paying in millions upon millions for all those perplexities, and on none of them will any leader say one illuminating word. They all shrink more or less, lest, as they say, they should say too much; and none worse than Lord Rosebery, of whom half the world believes—even we, who distrust him, believe—that to him the faculty of clear perception, of wide outlook, of just discrimination between the essential and the accidental, has most certainly been given in large measure. If he does not change his way quickly, he is lost, for upon this one truth at least he may rely: It is the merit, or the fault, of Englishmen in politics that they will grant to the *littérateur* everything excepting power. Lord Rosebery is neither counselor nor man of action; he is the brilliant man who comments."

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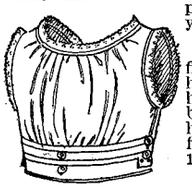

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE LITERARY DIGEST is in receipt of the following books:

With Washington in Braddock's Campaign. Edward Robins. (George W. Jacobs & Co., $1.25.)

The Aztec God (Drama).—George Lansing Raymond. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

The Limitations of Learning, Etc.—Albert Schneider, M.D., Ph.D. (*Chicago Medical Book* Co.)

The Frigate Constitution.—Ira N. Hollis. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., $1.50.)

A Day's Song.—J. Stuart Thomson. (William Briggs, $1.00.)

The Sunny Side of Life.—George L. Perin. (Every-Day Church Publishing Co., $1.00.)

A Life of St. John for the Young.—George L. Weed. (George W. Jacobs & Co., $0.75.)

Maya.—William D. Foulke. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

American Wit and Humor.—(George W. Jacobs & Co., 2 vols., $0.50 per vol.)

Literary Friends and Acquaintance.—W. D. Howells. (Harper & Bros., $2.50).

A Bunch of Forget-me-nots.—Frances F. Penny. (The Neely Co.)

Religion.—A Rational Demand.—Rev. G. J. Kirn. (Thomas & Mattill.)

The Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám.—Translated by Edward FitzGerald. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

"Psalms of Soul."—William B. Dickson. (Tribune Co., South Bend, Ind., $1.50.)

CURRENT POETRY.

Christmas Verse.

As usual, the Christmas magazines this year contain much poetry inspired by the Yuletide festival. Following are some of the more notable verses:

The Song of the Shepherds.

By EDWIN MARKHAM.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen.—Luke ii. 20.

It was near the first cock-crowing,
And Orion's wheel was going,
When an angel stood before us and our hearts were sore afraid.
Lo, his face was like the lightning,
When the walls of heaven are whitening,
And he brought us wondrous tidings of a joy that shall not fade.

Then a Splendor shone around us,
In the still field where he found us,
A-watch upon the Shepherd Tower and waiting for the light;
There where David as a stripling
Saw the ewes and lambs go rippling
Down the little hills and hollows at the falling of the night.

Oh, what tender, sudden faces
Filled the old familiar places,
The barley-fields where Ruth of old went gleaning with the birds!
Down the skies the host came swirling,
Like sea-waters white and whirling,
And our hearts were strangely shaken by the wonder of their words.

Haste, O people: all are bidden—
Haste from places, high or hidden:
In Mary's Child the Kingdom comes, the heaven in beauty bends!
He has made all life completer;
He has made the Plain Way sweeter,
For the stall is His first shelter and the cattle His first friends.

He has come! the skies are telling;
He has quit the glorious dwelling;
And first the tidings came to us, the humble shepherd folk.

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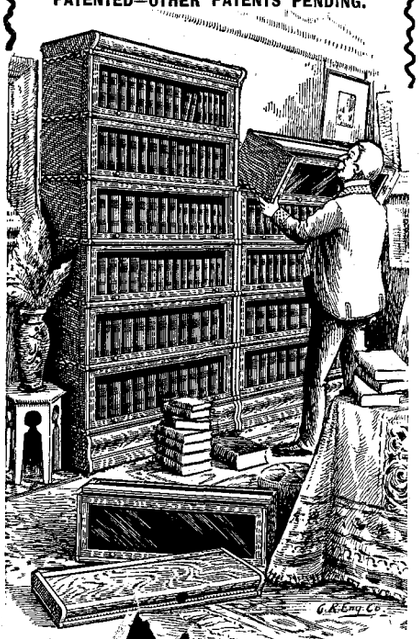

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He has come to field and manger,
And no more is God a Stranger:
He comes as Common Man at home with cart and crookéd yoke.

As the shade of a cool cedar
To a traveler in gray Kedar
Will be the kingdom of His love, the kingdom without end.
Tongues and ages may disclaim Him,
Yet the Heaven of heavens will name Him
Lord of peoples, Light of nations, elder Brother, tender Friend.

—*Harper's Bazar.*

Bethlehem.

By RUTH MCENERY STUART.

Oh, Bethlehem, starred Bethlehem,
Bright with the Coronation gem
Upon thy brow through history,
Whose eyes have seen the mystery,
Hail brow and eyes and diadem—
Hail Bethlehem!
. . . . . .
Oh, Bethlehem, Queen Bethlehem,
Of hallowed lap and diadem,
Thy Kohinoor, it is a star;
Thy hands are white as lilies are;
Thy song is sorrow's requiem,
Queen Bethlehem.

—*Harper's Magazine.*

The Eve of Mary.

By NORA HOPPER.

Sing out, and with rejoicing bring
Shepherds and neatherds to their King—
Their King who lies in stable-stall,
With straw for all His plenishing;
Who in His hands most weak and small
Doth hold the earth and heavens all:
Sing loud, the Eve of Mary!

Bring in the soft ewes and their rams,
And bring the little crying lambs;
This stable's wide enough for all.
Bring hither all the bleating dams,
And bid them crouch around the stall,
And watch the wonders that befall
Earth, on the Eve of Mary.

This mother-maid with drooping head
Hath but a straw-heap to her bed;
Yet, did she list, would angels come
And make a palace of her shed,
With myrrh and music bring Him home—
'Mid these glad mouths the one mouth dumb—
Here, on the Eve of Mary.

But rather would she lie below,
Thatched roof, and hear the north wind blow,
And pattering footsteps of the rain.
Ay, rather would she pay her throe
And take her joy: to quit all pain
His lips are on her breast again—
Sing low, the Eve of Mary!

Sing low, indeed; and softly bleat,
You lambing ewes, about her feet,
Lest ye should wake the Child from sleep.
No other hour so still and sweet
Shall fall for Mary's heart to keep,
Until her death-hour on her creep—
Sing soft, the Eve of Mary!

—*The North American Review.*

The Child.

By BERTHA GERNEAUX WOODS.

When Mary sang to him, I wonder if
His baby hand stole softly to her lips,
And, smiling down, she needs must stop her song
To kiss and kiss again his finger-tips.

I wonder if, his eyelids being shut,
And Mary bending mutely over him,
She felt her eyes, as mothers do to-day,
For very depth of love grow wet and dim.

Then did a sudden presage come to her
Of bitter looks and words and thorn-strewn street?
And did she catch her breath and hide her face
And shower smothered kisses on his feet?

—*Scribner's Magazine.*

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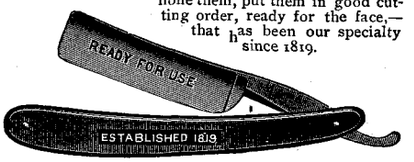

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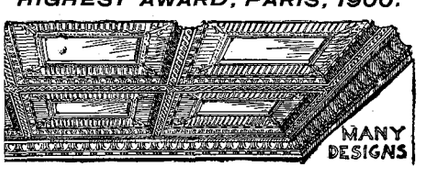

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FLOOR-WALKER: "Yes, madam—sixth floor, front. Regular dinner forty-nine cents, marked down from a dollar."—*Puck.*

He Understood.—FATHER: "I take it you called to see Lucy."

LOVER: "Well, I—er—a—u'm——"

FATHER: "Exactly! That's what I said when I was asked a similar question twenty-five years ago."—*Puck.*

Velocity.—PROFESSOR: "You wish your daughter to take lessons on the piano. Has she any aptitude for it?"

PROUD MAMMA: "Wonderful talent, sir; there are very few operators who can equal her speed on the typewriter."—*Collier's Weekly.*

The Absent-Minded (English) **Voter.**—[After Tippling.]

To the Cabinet:

When you've done with the Election, when you're safe in your seats,
When you've settled what appointments you are in,
Will you kindly spare a moment, just to reckon up accounts
Showing what you've scored, and how you've spent the tin?

I'm an absent-minded beggar, and my trustfulness is great,
But you and Joe must not impose upon it:
For I voted for the empire, and I want you now to state
What the total of the bill is and the profit.

Chorus:

My bill, his bill, every one's bill to-day
(Income-tax a shilling a pound, and likely to rise, they say),
What have we got for a million a week—or has it been thrown away?
Is it a credit or is it a debit, I pray, pray, pray?

[*No answer, except an echo from Colston Hall of "Pay, pay, pay."*]

—*Westminster Gazette.*

Current Events.

Foreign.

CHINA.

December 10.—A despatch from Shanghai states that Li Hung Chang's Manchu secretary has been arrested for reported communication with the Boxers.

December 12.—The negotiations at Peking among the Powers in regard to the joint China note are concluded, all agreeing to the conditions of Germany, except that in the clause saying the [illegible]nds are irrevocable.

December 13.—The Empress Dowager of China, reports from Shanghai say, agrees to peace negotiations which include the return of the Emperor to Peking and the payment of £40,000,000, the establishment of a guard of 2,000 for each legation, and the appointment of a foreign adviser for each province.

Reports say that the Emperor Kwang Su has become a Christian.

December 14.—Count von Waldersee announces that the powers have begun peace negotiations with China.

December 15.—The British Minister at Peking receives instructions not to sign the joint note of the powers to China for the present.

December 16.—Under instructions, the British minister demands certain modifications in the joint note of the Powers to China.

The Russian Government defends its course in seizing and retaining the Yang-Tsun-Shan-Hai-Kwan railroad in China.

SOUTH AFRICA.

December 11.—The new English Secretary of State for War, Mr. Brodrick, in a speech before the House of Commons, takes a gloomy view of the South African war.

Lord Roberts sails from Cape Town for England.

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is rising—the longer you wait the harder it will be to cross.
The longer you wait the harder to secure Life Insurance.

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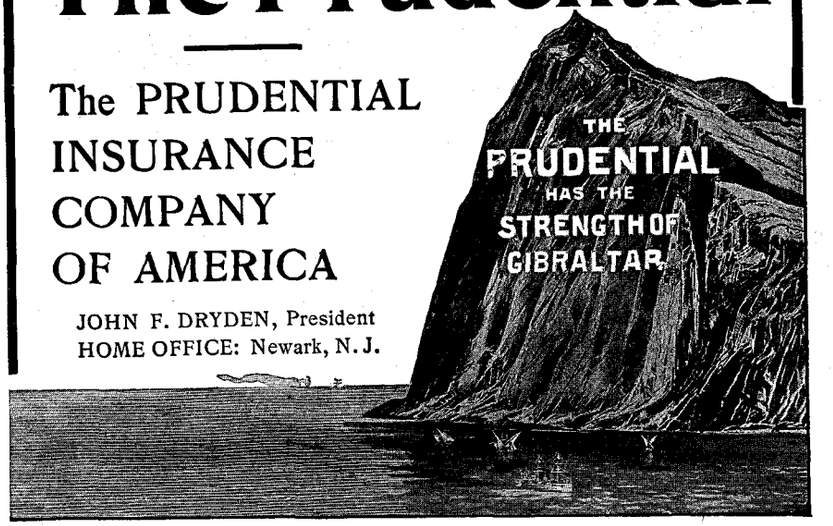
The PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President
HOME OFFICE: Newark, N. J.



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Pronounced *Ri-ter*, and is righter than all other Fountain Pens. It is jointless, having no old-fashioned screw joints to get stuck, leak, or break. Holds more ink than any other pen of its size. You never have soiled fingers from using **The Ruyter Jointless Fountain Pen.** It always writes and does not blot. Is a favorite with stenographers. Makes writing a positive luxury. The barrels are beautifully chased and are fitted with the finest quality of gold pens. Send $2.00 for Ladies' size, or $2.50 for Gents' size. Use it for 30 days, and if you do not find it perfectly satisfactory, either exchange it or get your money back. The publisher of this paper will vouch for our reliability. Send for booklet or write for simple plan by which stenographers, bookkeepers and office managers can secure **The Ruyter Pen** free.

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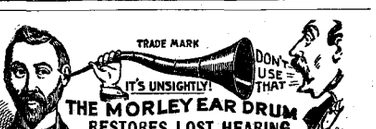

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December 12.—General De Wet slips out of the trap set for him by General Knox, stealing across the Caledon River, passing around Knox's forces, and is now heading for Keddersburg.

In the House of Commons, Sir Robert Reid proposes that negotiations for amnesty be opened with the Boers.

December 13.—General Clements's force is captured by the Boers.

December 14.—General Kitchener reports that the British under General Clements have been defeated by Commandant Delarey, near Pretoria.

Skirmishes in which the Boers were defeated continue.

General Knox continues his pursuit of DeWet.

December 15.—General Kitchener reports that in the attack by the Boers on General Clements at Magaliesberg, the British had 5 officers and 9 men killed, 18 officers and 555 men captured, and 6 officers and 45 men wounded; on the Boer side, a son of the late General Joubert was killed.

December 16.—The Boers at Zastron are reported to have captured 120 of Brabant's Horse.

President Kruger states that he has not decided if he will visit the United States.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

December 10.—The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, in the House of Commons, defends himself against accusations that he had used his official influence for his own financial benefit or that of his relations.

December 15.—Both houses of Parliament are prorogued until the middle of February.

The crusade against crime in Paris begins with 987 arrests in two nights.

December 16.—After a three days' battle, the Colombian revolutionists are forced to evacuate their stronghold, Tomaco, by the government troops.

The German training frigate *Gneisenau* founders off Malaga, forty persons being drowned.

M[illegible]H'S "pearl top" and "pearl glass" lamp-chimneys do not break from heat, not one in a hundred.

They are made of tough clear glass, clear as crystal.

They fit the lamps they are made for. Shape controls the draft. Draft contributes to proper combustion; that makes light; they improve the light of a lamp.

Our "Index" describes *all* lamps and their *proper* chimneys. With it you can always order the right size and shape of chimney for any lamp. We mail it FREE to any one who writes for it.

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Write for booklet.

THE SANITARY STILL

on your kitchen stove furnishes plenty of distilled aerated water at trifling cost. Simple as a tea kettle. **HON. THEO. F. SWAYZE,** Chief Clerk of the Treasury, Washington, D. C, writes: "I have been using one of your Sanitary Stills in my family for some time, and it gives me pleasure to recommend it to any one who wants pure and palatable water. The still is simple and easy to operate." The Sanitary Still used in the **WHITE HOUSE.** Highest award at Paris Exposition. Cuprigraph Co., 68 N. Green St., Chicago

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BEST IMPORTED at almost **HALF PRICES.**

Oolongs, Japans, Young Hysons, Gunpowders, English Breakfasts, Souchongs, Congous, Assams and Ceylons from..... **27c to 57c** per lb.

VERY BEST ROASTED COFFEES from.. **10c to 29c** per lb.

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In the highest and dryest section of the long leaf pine region of North Carolina, an ideal place for health, rest and recreation. A village of fifty houses, three superb hotels, accommodating seven hundred guests, including *The* **Carolina**, the largest and handsomest hotel in North Carolina, boarding-houses, public Casino. All electric lighted, pure spring water, and complete sanitary drainage.

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Unequalled attractions for refined people at moderate cost. Direct through connection from Boston and New York. Address Resident Manager, Pinehurst, N. C.

Domestic.

CONGRESS.

December 10.—*Senate:* Senator Frye announces that Secretary Hay has stated that he will not resign if the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is amended.

Charles A. Towne is sworn in as Senator from Minnesota.

House: The legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill is passed.

December 11.—*Senate:* The President sends in the name of George V. L. Meyer, of Massachusetts to be ambassador of the United States to Italy.

December 12.—The 100th anniversary of the establishment of the seat of government in Washington is celebrated; the President gives a reception and exercises are held in the hall of the House of Representatives.

December 13.—*Senate:* In executive session, the foreign relations committee's amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is adopted by a vote 65 to 17.

The nomination of Judson C. Clements, of Georgia, to be interstate commerce commissioner is sent to the Senate.

December 14.—*House:* Efforts to secure a further reduction of beer tax fails, and an amendment restoring the tax on express receipts and making it payable by the companies is adopted.

December 15.—*House:* The war-tax reduction bill and the pension appropriation bill are passed.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

December 11.—Bishop Potter declares that labor should have a representative on the anti-vice committee in New York.

Wu Ting-Fang, the Chinese minister, denies that his address on Confucianism decried Christianity or misrepresented it.

December 13.—The President nominates John W. Yerkes, of Kentucky, to be commissioner of internal revenue.

December 14.—Orders are sent to General MacArthur to begin sending home volunteers in the Philippines immediately.

December 15.—W. J. Bryan announces that he is to be editor of a newspaper called *The Commoner*, devoted to the principles of the Kansas City platform, to be issued next January.

John Addison Porter, formerly secretary to President McKinley, dies at Putnam, Conn.

A general upheaval in the police department in New York City causes much comment.

Keep Your House Warmer at one-half the cost for fuel by using the Rochester Radiator.

Enjoy Your Breakfast,
BY USING OUR NEW STANDARD

BOMOJA BEST GROWN COFFEE

IT IS INDEED A RARE TREAT.

It is packed in ABSOLUTELY AIR-TIGHT TRADE-MARK BAGS, which will preserve the strength and flavor for any length of time.

Don't fail to visit the HANDSOMEST AND CLEANEST TEA STORE in America—it has been entirely remodeled—new front, new entrance, new decorations, new stock, etc. It is well worth a visit. A Beautiful SOUVENIR FREE.
All Orders by Mail or Telephone, 2451 Cortlandt, Will Receive Prompt Attention.

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A $12 Bath Cabinet FOR only $5.00

Our new 1902 style Square Quaker guaranteed best of all cabinets at any price. Has real door on hinges, steel frame, best materials, rubber lined, folds flat, lasts 20 years. Turkish and Vapor baths at home 3c each. Open the millions of pores, sweats poisons out of the blood, keeps you clean and healthy, beautifies complexion. Physicians recommend it for Colds, LaGrippe, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Obesity, Female Ills, all Blood, Skin, Nerve or Kidney troubles. Money refunded after 30 days use, if not as represented. Price with heater, directions, formulas, $5.00. Face Steamer $1.00 extra. Order today. Write us. Valuable Book FREE. Big Wages. Splendid Seller. **Agents Wanted.**
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Largest Nursery. *Fruit Book Free.* Result of 76 years' experience.
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THE HEALTH HABIT.

Just as Easy to Form as Any Other.

We do not deliberately form our pet habits, but they are unconsciously acquired and grow as we grow, and by the time we learn they are hurting us, we find them too strong to be easily broken.

Then, why not form a good habit, a habit which will counteract the many bad ones, in other words contract the unfashionable habit of being always well.

The best health habit to get into is to have and keep a vigorous stomach; if you have a healthy digestion you can drink your beloved coffee, smoke your favorite brand of tobacco, with little or no harm; the mischief begins when these things are forced upon the faithful stomach, without any assistance.

Form the habit of taking after meals some harmless but efficient digestive which will relieve the stomach of so much extra work.

Nature furnishes us with such digestives and when they are combined in such a pleasant preparation as Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, they give the overworked stomach just the necessary assistance to secure perfect digestion without any of the harmful effects of cathartics and similar drugs.

The habit of taking Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets after meals is as necessary to the weak stomach as food itself, and indeed to get the benefit from food eaten, nothing better and certainly nothing safer can be used.

Many families consider Stuart's Tablets as essential in the house as knives and forks.

They consist entirely of natural digestive principle without the effect or characteristics of drugs; they have no cathartic action, but simply go to work on the food eaten and digest it.

Take into account your bad habits and the expense they entail and then invest fifty cents in a box of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets and see if your digestion for the next month is not vastly improved,

Ask the clerk in any drug store the name of the most successful and popular stomach remedy and he will say Stuart's.

Cod Liver Oil is a food

and the greatest care should be exercised in its selection.

Peter Moller's Cod Liver Oil

is the best oil that fifty years of continued scientific research has produced. By the process now employed the oil is kept from contact with the atmosphere from the beginning of the process of manufacture until it is safely corked up in [illegible]es, thus preventing contamination [illegible] kind and excluding all impurities.

Give this new oil a trial. Ask for Peter Moller's Oil, and see that the bottle—a flat, oval one—bears our name as agents. Notice the date in perforated letters at bottom of the label.

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CHESS.

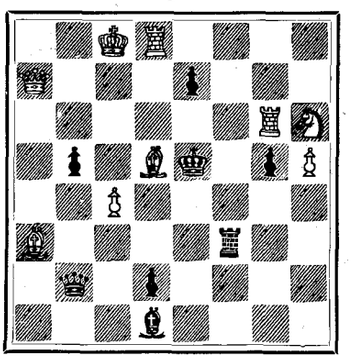
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 526.

By H. F. W. LANE.

First Prize *Kingston Society* Problem Tourney, 1900.

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

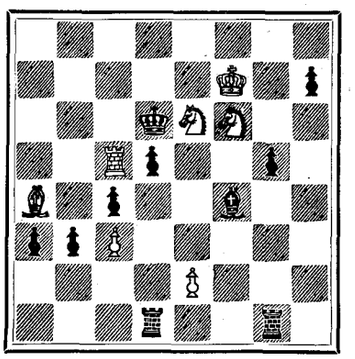
White mates in two moves.

The Times-Democrat, New Orleans, calls attention to the fact that Mr. Lane is, like the celebrated Problematist, A. F. Mackenzie, unable to see either board or men.

Problem 527.

By A. ARNELL.

Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Seven Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 520.

Key-move, Kt—K 5.

No. 521.

1. Q—R 7 / K—K 5	2. Q—Q 4 ch / K—B 6 (must)	3. B—Kt 4, mate	
1. ..... / K—B 5	2. R—K B sq ch / K—K 4 or—K 5	3. Q—Q 4, mate	
	2. ..... / K—Kt 4	3. Q—K 7, mate	
	2. ..... / K—Kt 6	3. Q—B 2, mate	
1. ..... / K—B 3	2. Kt—K 8 or R 5 ch / K—K 4	3. Q—Q 4, mate	
	2. ..... / B x Kt	3. Q—K Kt 7, mate	
1. ..... / K—Q 3	2. Q—Q B 7 ch / K—Q 4 (must)	3. B—Kt 7, mate	

Other variations depend on those given.

Both problems solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; H. W. Barry, Boston; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; the Rev. F. H. Johnston, Tarboro, N. C.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; W. W., Cam-

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Quality, Purity, Effectiveness

Best Soap
1776 Soap Powder
Best Baking Powder
Pure Potash or Lye

INSULATION TREATMENT.

For Rheumatism, Sleeplessness, Neuralgia, Nervousness.

These ailments are caused by a disordered condition of the system in which there is an excessive flow of animal electricity to the earth. This loss is entirely stopped by the use of the **Slayton Electric Switch Glass Casters** and the **Slayton S[illegible] Glass** and **Silk Insulating Inso[illegible]**

Many are skepti[illegible]t so simple a treatment can cure s[illegible] diseases. We ask no one to take our word for it. We ask no one for a penny until our treatment shall have proved its efficiency. To thousands of doubters the first step in the path to restored health has been the acceptance of the following offer:

FREE TRIAL We will gladly send any one a full set of the SLAYTON ELECTRIC SWITCH CASTERS and SLAYTON INSULATING INSOLES on receipt of 25c. for postage or packing, or separately, 17c. for the Casters and 8c. for the Insoles. Try them for **one week** according to directions. If they do not help you, return them by mail and no charge will be made. If they do help you (and they almost certainly will), send us $3 for the Casters and $2 for the Insoles. These articles can be used separately with great benefit, but to secure the *greatest* relief both should be used. Be sure to state whether Casters are to be placed on iron, brass, or wooden bedsteads, and the size of shoes Insoles are to fit.

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All cases of **DEAFNESS** or **HARD-HEARING** are now **CURABLE** by our new invention; only those born deaf are incurable. **HEAD NOISES CEASE IMMEDIATELY.** Describe your case. Examination and advice free. You can cure yourself at home at a nominal cost.

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bridge, Mass.; A Knight, Hillsboro, Tex.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; J. E. Wharton, Sherman, Tex.; Dr. H. W. Fannin, Hackett, Ark.; W. J. Leake, Richmond, Va.; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; W. B. Miller, Calmar, Ia.; O. C. Brett, Humboldt, Kan.; P.A. Towne, West Edmeston, N. Y.; D. Schaudi, Corning, Ark.; Prof. W. W. Smith, Randolph-Macon College, Lynchburg, Va.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.; R. J. Williams, Ashland, Pa.; F. F. Carroll, Aiken, S. C.

520 (only): Prof. R. H. Dabney, University of Virginia; the Rev. A. De R. Meares, Hyattsville, Md.; F. E. Reid, New York City; Mrs. S. W. Crittenden, Philadelphia; J. H. Mueller, Cleveland, O. H. Coss, Cattaraugus, N. Y.; S. Stoddard, Kansas City, Mo.; "Merope," Cincinnati; Prof. O. W. Ensworth, Warren, Pa.; H. Sleeper, Meriden, N. H.

Comments (520): "A fine example of pinning"—M. W. H.; "The key is obvious, the lock, ingenious"—I. W. B.; "Rather good; but the P on Q Kt 2 would point the key, even were the idea not already shown by position of White R's and Q B"—H. W. B.; "Simple, but clever"—F. H. J.; "Decidedly good"—M. M.; "What it lacks in variety it makes up in strength. Two fine 'tries,' B—K 6 and Kt—R 3, thwarted by Kt—B 3 and P—Kt 3, respectively"—A K.; "As neat as a pin"—G. D.

(521): "I congratulate the equestrian author"—M. W. H.; "Clean, clever, economical"—I. W. B.; "A threat-key; but the principal point is good; the management of so free a Black K is excellent, and the mates are ingenious"—H. W. B.; "A rather one-sided affair, still the Black K has plenty of searoom; the conception is quite artistic"—F. H. J.; "A fine 3-er, clean and pretty"—M. M.; "A good key and some very pleasing mates"—W. W.; "I admire this problem very much. It is both able and artistic"—G. D; "Elegant! Hurrah for Texas!"—J. E. W.; "Very fine"—H. W. F.; "With such economy of material the author has been most entertainingly successful, and failed only by a trifle in being brilliant"—W. R. C.; "Very difficult"—W. J. L.

In addition to those reported, F. E. R. got 517, 518, 519, and 521; W. K. Greely, Boston, and A. W. Peterson, Ironwood, Mich., 518; H. S., 518 and 519; "Merope," Cincinnati, 517 and 518. H. W. B. got Reichelm's end-game.

Tolstoy Plays Good Chess.

Count [illegible] we are informed, is playing a "good [illegible] lately." If the following game is a [illegible] of his play, we might say that he is playing [illegible] of good Chess. His opponent, S. Lebe[illegible] nks as one of the strongest players in Rus[illegible]

Queen's Gambit.

LEBEDEFF. *White.*	TOLSTOY. *Black.*	LEBEDEFF. *White.*	TOLSTOY. *Black.*
1 P—Q 4	P—Q 4	22 K—K 2	Q—K 3 ch
2 P—Q B 4	P x P	23 B-K 4 ch(b)	K—R sq
3 Kt—K B 3	Kt—K B 3	24 Q-B 3 ch(c)	P—B 3
4 P—K 3	B—Kt 5	25 B—R 6	R—B 2
5 B x P	P—K 3	26 R—Kt 4	Kt—Q 2 (d)
6 Q—Kt 3	B x Kt (?)	27 Q R-K Kt sq (e)	Kt—K 4
7 P x B	P—Q Kt 3	28 Q—R 5	K R-Q R 2(f)
8 R—Kt sq	P—B 3	29 R-Kt 8 ch	R x R
9 Kt—B 3	P—Q Kt 4	30 Q x R	Kt—Kt 3(g)
10 B—K 2	P—Q R 4	31 R—Kt 4	P x B
11 B—Q 2	P—Kt 3	32 R x P	Kt—K 4
12 R—Q B sq	P—R 5	33 Q—Q 4	Kt x P !!(h)
13 Q—B 2	Kt—Q 4	34 K x Kt	Q—R 6 ch
14 Kt x Kt	K P x Kt	35 K—K 2	Q x B
15 P—K 4	B—Kt 2	36 R—K 6	Q—R 4 ch
16 P—K 5	Castles	37 K—Q 2	Q—Kt 4 ch
17 B—Q 3	Q—K 2	38 K—B 3	Q—B 8 ch
18 P—Q R 3	B x P	39 K—Q 3	Q—Q 8 ch
19 P x B	Q x P ch	Resigns.	
20 K—B sq	Q x R P		
21 BxK Kt P	Q—R 6 ch (a)		

Louis Uedemann, in the Chicago *Tribune*, says:

The Count's sixth move, opening the Knight's file, nearly proves fatal later on, and the skill with which he parries White's attack and finally secures victory for himself is all pretty and instructive, and marks him as a player of great ability and originality."

The game is full of interesting plays, and the fearless manner in which the Count pushes his Pawns is a lesson to timid players. It takes some nerve as well as calculation to play 18.., B x P.

(a) If either P x B; 22 R x P ch, P x R; 23 Q x P ch, K—R sq; 24 B—B 3 ch, and mate follows.

(b) White evidently thought that he had something by this discovered check; but the Count was on the watch for this very move.

(c) Better than B—B 3 ch, as after a while this B goes to R 6, and causes Black to think somewhat.

(d) He's not ready to take B, it will keep. The move selected is probably the best, as he gets the Kt on K 4.

(e) Looks very formidable, and a slip, now, on Black's part would bring defeat speedily.

(f) If R x Q, then R—Kt 8, mate.

(g) If R x R, then Q x P, mate.

(h) The cutest kind of a move, for if 34 R x Q, Kt x Q ch; 35 Any, Kt x R.

How about the Synthetic Problems? Several solvers have expressed their desire to try these. One correspondent thinks that they will not prove interesting because of their "obvious difficulty"; while another thinks that we need all our space for legitimate Chess.

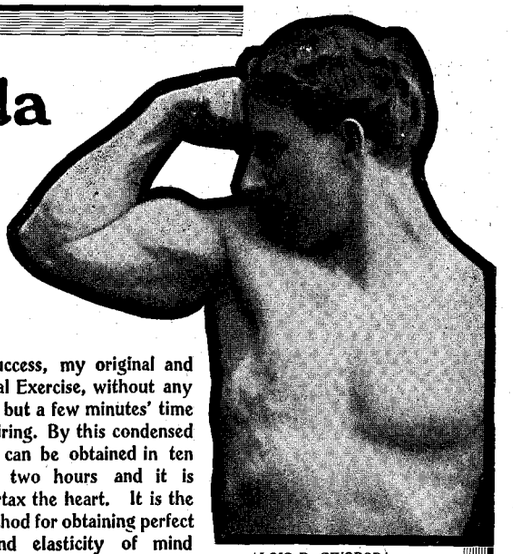
...THE...

Swoboda System

of PHYSIOLOGICAL EXERCISE

Restores the Health,

Strengthens the Heart.



ALOIS P. SWOBODA,
Originator and Sole Instructor.

I teach by mail with perfect success, my original and scientific method of Physiological Exercise, without any apparatus whatever and requiring but a few minutes' time in your own room just before retiring. By this condensed system more exercise and benefit can be obtained in ten minutes than by any other in two hours and it is the only one which does not overtax the heart. It is the only natural, easy and speedy method for obtaining perfect health, physical development and elasticity of mind and body.

PERFECT HEALTH means an absolute freedom from those ailments which a well informed mind knows are directly or indirectly due to a lack of properly arranged exercise.

ABSOLUTELY CURES CONSTIPATION, INDIGESTION, SLEEPLESSNESS, NERVOUS EXHAUSTION AND REVITALIZES THE WHOLE BODY.

A Strong Endorsement from Mr. J. L. Jones, Vice-President and Secretary, Jones Dry Goods Co., of Kansas City.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 24, 1900.
Mr. Alois P. Swobodo, Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Mr. Swoboda:—As I have had numerous requests by mail from different sections of the country to give my ideas of your system of physiological exercise, I will write you this letter which if you see fit, you can have published, and which will prove I hope, an answer to all these inquiries as I am a pretty busy man.

On February 15, 1898, after years of gradual but certain decline, physically and mentally, I had a complete nervous prostration or collapse. It was impossible for me to sleep without medicine and I went without natural sleep for the period of about ten months. I tried the best physicians to be had, traveled almost constantly, being unable to remain long in one place, took hunting trips in Colorado and a seacoast trip to Northern Maine with no appreciable result. I had been constipated for sixteen or seventeen years and had to take physic constantly, never having a natural action.

I was advised by Mr. Seested, business manager of the Kansas City Star, to call on you with my physician, you will remember, I called and spent two hours with you and he advised me to take the treatment, as it could do me no harm and might do me a great deal of good. That was on October 24, 1898. At that time I felt sure I was going to lose my mind. I could not sleep without medicine, was completely unfitted for business or for anything else, and there was scarcely a function of my body that would work satisfactorily. Within thirty days after beginning your exercise treatment, my constipation had gone, and I have never taken a physic since; within sixty days I was attending to considerable business and within ninety days I was at my desk, and have grown stronger ever since, until today, I weigh more than I ever did in my life, with not a pound nor an ounce of surplus flesh.

I am in better health than I have ever been in my life. Constipation gone, nervous dyspepsia gone, the nervous prostration feeling entirely eradicated, and my ability to sleep is equal to that of any period in my life.

Trusting this letter may be instrumental in causing other sufferers to take hold of your natural, rational line of treatment and follow it to the same splendid result that the writer did, I beg to remain, Yours with sincerest gratitude.

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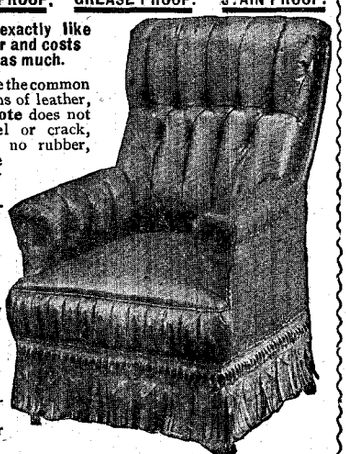

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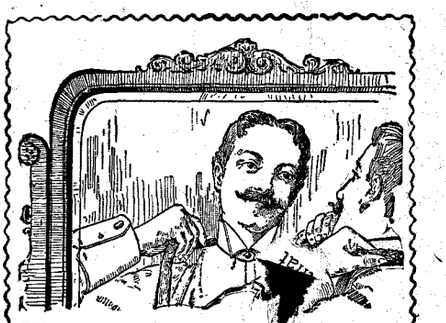

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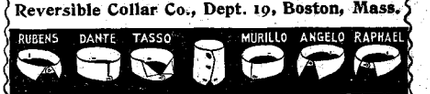

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